**RESEARCH PLAN – Doctoral Programme in Business Studies or Economics**

The applicant completes the research plan after consulting with their supervisor-in-charge. The research plan must be attached to the doctoral studies application. This template can be used as is for creating a research plan. Alternatively, the research plan can be created in a free format, provided it includes at least the headings and themes outlined in this template.

The research topic of the dissertation must align with the field of study (specialisation) and the doctoral degree the applicant wishes to pursue. The topic and content of the research should be planned so that it is possible to defend the dissertation within 3–4 years of full-time study.

**Doctoral applicant**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name: |  |
| Provisional title of the dissertation: |  |
| Dissertation format: | [Article-based / Essay-based / Monograph] |
| Supervisor-in-charge: | [The supervisor-in-charge must be employed by the University of Jyväskylä, be a member of the faculty’s teaching and research staff, hold a doctoral degree, and have sufficient scientific merits.] |
| Doctoral programme: | [Business studies or Economics] |
| Specialisation of doctoral studies: |  |

**Motivation**  
[Motivate why the topic is important and to whom?] Suggested length of this section: 0.5-1 pages

**Literature review**  
[Review the relevant prior literature on the topic.] Suggested length of this section: 1-3 pages

**Research questions**  
[State clearly the research questions of your thesis. Which gaps in the prior literature you aim to address and fill with your research?] Suggested length of this section: 0.5-1 pages

**Methods and data**  
[Explain and motivate your methodological approach and choices. How do you plan to answer to your research questions? If the thesis will be empirical, are you going to use mainly qualitative or quantitative methods? What data are you going to use to answer the research questions? Comment availability of the data and give an estimate of the data related costs (collection, purchases etc.).] Suggested length of this section: 0.5-1.5 pages

**Expected findings and their implications**  
[Give an informed guess of your potential results, i.e., what you expect to find, as well as discuss briefly their implications for policy and research. Make sure that your discussion here is consistent with your research questions and proposed method.] Suggested length of this section: 0.5 pages

**Timing of the PhD research process**   
[Write down or visualize the schedule of your PhD research process (plans for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and possible 4th year).] Suggested length of this section: 0.5-1 pages