

# Model for developing a dual PhD proposal

## Leiden University Dual PhD Centre

### I. General

- This document contains a model to develop a dual dissertation proposal. Use the headings depicted below for your own proposal. Please use page numbers.
- This model can also be helpful in the early stages of the PhD track, e.g. to develop an initiation document. Of course, in this case, the document can only be partially filled out and several items will remain blank.
- Describe your current ideas as briefly and concisely as you can. At this stage, your ideas may not have fully developed yet. Dual PhD candidates often find that research questions from professional practice are not easily linked to an academic field and/or supervisor. In due course, this can be further developed in close collaboration between the candidate and the Centre.
- Software for publishing and managing bibliographies, such as Endnote, can be very helpful.
- The proposal can be submitted in Dutch or in English.
- The research proposal may not exceed 3000 words.
- The PhD proposal should be submitted to Dr Johannes Magliano-Tromp, director of the Dual PhD Centre, via email: [dualphd@fgga.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:dualphd@fgga.leidenuniv.nl).
- During the development stage of your research proposal you can request an orientation meeting with Johannes Magliano-Tromp. For this you will need to provide at least several pages of your initial idea or a short sketch of your research proposal, your CV and a sample of your earlier academic work (see section III, Appendices).

### II. Dual PhD proposal

#### 1. Personal information dual PhD candidate

Name, address, telephone, email, academic qualifications.

#### 2. Date of submission

#### 3. Employer

Name, address, function, terms of employment.

#### 4. Title of research project

State the (working) title of the research project here.

#### 5. Abstract

Provide a brief abstract of the research proposal.

## **6. Introduction**

Reason and relevance of the proposal argued from the current state of professional practice and/or field, and/or literature.

## **7. Definition of the problem/research question**

Provide a researchable problem taken from professional practice, and the central research question for this project, including possibly, sub-questions.

## **8. Theoretic foundation**

Summary of relevant literature on which the research is based. Also, indicate where more research is needed. Optional: provide ideas on the embedding of the research within existing academic field(s)/discipline(s).

## **9. Hypotheses and research questions**

Describe the hypotheses to be tested in this research project, and provide a rationale for inferring these hypotheses from the theory described under 8.

## **10. Research methodology**

The research methodology used to answer the main research question(s) and to test the hypotheses.

## **11. Schedule**

Planning of the research in time, taking into account interaction with professional practice, available time from work, and available private time, per PhD track phase (see the website for a description of the three phases).

## **12. Supervisor (optional)**

Provide suggestions for one or more potential supervisor(s).

## **13. Bibliography**

Literature references in accordance with an academic standard (such as APA, Harvard Referencing System, etc.).

## **III. Appendices**

- **Curriculum Vitae**

- **Sample of your academic writing**

A previous essay, paper or thesis, which provides the best insight into your capabilities.

#### IV. Useful literature for designing a research proposal

- Bryman, A. (2012). *Social research methods*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Creswell, J.W. (2009). *Research design. Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches*. Los Angeles: Sage.
- King, G., Keohane, R.O. & Verba, S. (1994). *Designing social inquiry. Scientific inference in qualitative research*. New Jersey: Princeton University Press.
- Start early with data management planning. Read more on the library website of Leiden: <https://www.library.universiteitleiden.nl/research-and-publishing/datamanagement>.