



## The Interdisciplinary Studies Thesis Proposal

An IS Thesis Proposal normally takes the form of an essay. A covering page should include the title of the project, the names of all three members of Supervisory Committee, identifying the current Coordinating Chair, and the date of submission. The title should specify as clearly as possible the area of proposed research, though IS understands that this title may change to reflect more accurately shifts in focus occasioned by the research process itself. The following are general suggestions from the program, but students must consult with their committee regarding their expectations for a fulsome proposal and meet their requirements fully.

**In** no more than 2500 words the body of the Thesis Proposal should discuss:

1. the topic or problem under investigation in non-technical language
2. the purpose of the proposed research in non-technical language
3. the relation of the proposed research to the scholarly and/or creative traditions of scholarship out of which it arises and to which it contributes
4. the theoretical framework, methodological approach, and interdisciplinary nature of the proposed research, including fieldwork and/or creative aspects
5. where appropriate, any work involving human participants and the research ethics that apply to it, *including a statement that the student has completed the on-line Tri-Council Agencies Tutorial*. The Tri-Council Agencies consist of three federal research funding agencies: the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC). Information about this tutorial is available on the FGS and Tri-Council Agencies websites. Please see:  
[http://www.yorku.ca/grads/policies\\_procedures/research\\_ethics.html](http://www.yorku.ca/grads/policies_procedures/research_ethics.html) and  
<http://www.pre.ethics.gc.ca/eng/education/tutorial-didacticiel/>
6. where appropriate, any work involving the delivery of research in electronic, digital or multi-media formats
7. where appropriate, the student's proficiency in any languages other than English required to satisfactorily complete the proposed research
8. where appropriate, any travel required to pursue the proposed research and evidence of the student's ability to fund it
9. the original contribution to knowledge that the proposed research makes
10. a chapter outline of the thesis
11. a step-by-step time-frame for completing the thesis

A formal bibliography should accompany the Thesis Proposal. This bibliography is not part of the 2500 word-count.