

## **Research Proposal (PGR2) Guidelines for Applicants for the PhD programme in the Faculty of Culture & Society**

*Please write a short, **1000-2000 word max**, provisional research proposal using the following headings as a guide. Your proposal should be in 12-point font, single spaced and written in lay English for a general audience under the headings as indicated.*

### **1. Background and significance of the research**

Introduce the topic of the research and why the research is important.

### **2. Brief literature review and theoretical base for the research**

Provide an overview of the key literature and theories that are most important to the topic, demonstrating your understanding of the research issues, and highlighting key gap(s) in the literature that your research addresses.

### **3. Research question**

Clearly define the question(s) the research intends to address.

### **4. Research design – brief outline of the potential methodology and methods to be employed in the study**

Provide a description of which research methodology will likely be employed to answer the research question(s). Depending on your research question(s), this may involve identifying the likely sources of data, and methods used for collecting and analysing data.

*You should complete the front page of the PGR2 form and copy and paste your research proposal into the section titled 'Doctoral Applicants Research Proposal'. Please also complete the Entry Criteria Statement and sign the 'Declaration by Student' and pass the PGR2 form onto your supervisors for them to complete their part of the PGR2 form. Once your supervisors have completed their section of the form, they will pass your PGR2 on to the Faculty Postgraduate Office to complete the final section, obtain the signature of the Associate Dean Postgraduate and to seek the approval of the appropriate Boards for your admission.*