

Dates of Approvals:

21st January, 2025 (Approved at the 174th CCM)

14th February, 2025 (Approved at the 184th BoM)

**Postgraduate Institute of Science  
University of Peradeniya**

**Format of the M.Phil./Ph.D. Research Project Proposal**

Prepare the M.Phil./Ph.D. research project proposal according to the following format. Limit the length of the proposal to 3000 - 5000 words excluding, figures, tables, references and appendices.

Format: Page size A4; font Times Roman 12 points; margins 1" top and bottom, 0.75" left and right; line spacing 1.5.

**1. Title of the Research Project**

The title should be clear, precise and informative of the focus of the study. It should reflect the essence of the research and be easy to understand.

**2. Background and Significance**

This should include a brief review of related literature, clearly defined research question, hypothesis/eses and significance/s of the study.

**3. Objective/s**

State general and specific objective/s of the research.

**4. Research Design and methods**

- Outline the overall research approach and briefly describe experimental methods, data collection and analysis.
- Wherever applicable, define the population or sample of the study, and discuss sampling methods and sample size.
- If instruments like questionnaires or interviews are used in selecting study subjects and gathering data, provide details.
- Indicate how ethical concerns will be addressed, including informed consent, confidentiality, and any potential risks to participants wherever applicable.
- Indicate the status of obtaining permission from the relevant authorities for sample collection if required.

**5. Time Schedule**

Provide a realistic time schedule\* for completing the research, breaking it down to key phases (e.g. literature review, gathering samples, data collection and analysis, publications, thesis writing, etc.)

Activity	Months 1-6	Months 7-12	Months 13-18	Month 19-24	Months 25-30	Months 31-36

\*For part-time candidates amend the table accordingly

## **6. References**

Provide a list of references cited in the proposal. Follow **an** appropriate citation style throughout the list.

## **7. Appendices (if applicable)**

Include any supplementary material that supports the proposal (e.g., survey instruments, interview guides, tables, charts).