**HDR Research Proposal Template**

**Faculty of Creative Industries, Education and Social Justice**

**About this template:**

All applicants wishing to apply to study for a research degree (i.e., a Master of Philosophy, Doctor of Philosophy, or Professional Doctorate)in the Faculty of Creative Industries, Education and Social Justice (CIESJ) Faculty must complete this form.

**Instructions:**

In consultation with your supervisory team, complete the research proposal below and submit it along with your supporting documents as part of Step 4 of QUT’s application process for a research degree: <https://www.qut.edu.au/research/study-with-us/how-to-apply>

If you are applying for a scholarship in QUT’s Annual Scholarship Round, please note CIESJ Faculty’s [scholarship selection criteria](https://cms.qut.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0008/1161098/qut-research-scholarship-selection-criteria.pdf) and how they are reflected in the structure of this research proposal:

1. Quality of research proposal (Weighting: 50%; Points: 12)
2. Applicant track-record (Weighting: 25%; Points: 6)
3. Strategic alignment (Weighting: 25%; Points: 6)

**Overall word limit:** Your research proposal must be no more than 1500 words, excluding sections 1.7 and 2.2 (your list of references and research outputs) and should not exceed 6 pages.

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| **Applicant’s name** |  |
| **QUT application ID** |  |
| **Degree** |  |
| **School** |  |
| **Centre (if relevant)** |  |
| **Proposed Principal supervisor** |  |
| **Proposed Associate supervisor(s)** |  |

1. **RESEARCH PROPOSAL
(*Scholarship criterion 1 – Quality of Research Proposal – Weighting: 50%; Points: 12)***

**1.1 Project title**

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| Provide a working or draft title for your project. |
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**1.2 Statement of the research topic**

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| Provide a brief statement of the focus of the research to be conducted, the research problem it will address, and the intended contribution to knowledge it will make. (Max. 100 words.)  |
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**1.3 Overview of relevant literature and gap in knowledge**

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| Provide a brief overview of the key research on the topic and describe an existing gap in the knowledge that this project will address. Provide a reference list of works cited in section 1.7. (Max. 250 words.) |
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**1.4 Objectives of the research**

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| Explain the specific objectives that will enable you to achieve your project’s broader aim. For further information on formulating objectives, please refer to <http://betterthesis.dk/getting-started/short-synopsis>. (Max. 100 words.)  |
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**1.5 Proposed research methods and plan**

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| Explain the research methods you will employ to achieve the objectives listed above. Explain if you have experience using these methods or if you will be developing these skills (and how) during the course of your studies. Outline your approach to data collection and analysis, and explain any resourcing issues related to this. Provide a notional plan of how you intend to undertake the research. (Max. 200 words.) |
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**1.6 Potential to make a research contribution**

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| Explain the potential for this project to make a research contribution, and specifically indicate journals in which you might publish research outputs from this project. (Max. 150 words.) |
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**1.7 Reference list**

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| Provide a list of references for sources cited in Section 1 of your proposal in a standard bibliographic format (e.g., in APA style). References do not count towards the maximum word-limit of 1500 words. |
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1. **APPLICANT TRACK-RECORD
*(Scholarship criterion 2 – Applicant track-record – Weighting: 25%; Points: 6)***

**2.1 Research and/or industry experience, relative to opportunity**

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| Provide details of your research and/or industry experience, explaining its relevance to your proposed project. Where relevant, provide details of your* previous study, including its relevance to your proposed project and any achievements or merits you wish to highlight (e.g., GPA or awards)
* relevant professional/industry experience, explaining how this experience supports your project (e.g., industry-linked project leveraging industry connections)
* research experience (e.g., research assistant work, methodological experience or expertise, or involvement in a research team) and how your project builds on this. Where you bring research or methodological experience from a different discipline, explain how this will help advance the interdisciplinary goals and potential contribution of your project.

For scholarship applicants, explain any contextual factors about your research and/or industry experience that will help the panel assess your track-record relative to opportunity. (Max. 400 words.) |
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**2.2 Research outputs (including theses)**

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| If you have published any traditional, non-traditional, or industry-related research outputs, provide a list here in a standard bibliographic format (e.g., in APA style). Traditional outputs include journal articles, scholarly book chapters, and conference papers. You may include manuscripts that you have submitted for peer-review, ensuring you have clearly labelled these as under review. Non-traditional outputs can include creative works, exhibitions, and software. Industry-related research outputs can include white-papers, reports, and submissions you have written or contributed to. If you have completed a thesis as part of your previous studies, provide details and a link to a copy of your thesis in this section. This section does not count towards the maximum word-limit of 1500 words. |
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1. **STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT
*Please ensure you seek your Principal Supervisor’s assistance to complete this section*
(*Scholarship criterion 3 – Strategic Alignment – Weighting: 25%; Points: 6)***

**3.1 Alignment with Faculty of Creative Industries, Education, and Social Justice (CIESJ) research priorities**

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| Explain your project’s alignment with one or more of the Creative Industries, Education and Social Justice Faculty’s **Research Centres** or **Research Groups**. Details about and links to CIESJ Faculty’s 6 Research Centres and 8 Research Groups can be found here: <https://www.qut.edu.au/research/our-research/creative-industries-education-and-social-justice>. If your project aligns with a CIESJ Research Centre, explain how your project directly connects to one or more of the Centre’s constituent programs. Ensure you explain your supervisory team’s involvement and engagement in any Research Centre or Research Group named. If your project does not directly align with an established CIESJ Faculty Research Centre or Faculty Research Group, but supports an emerging area of research strength, provide details of this alignment here. (Max. 100 words.) |
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**3.2 External alignment and engagement**

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| Provide details of any links, existing or potential, that your project has with external end-users, including businesses, government bodies, non-governmental organisations, or communities and community organisations. Explain how your project will engage with these end-users and the benefits this engagement will bring. (Max. 100 words.) |
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**3.3 Alignment with current, externally funded grants**

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| If your project is connected to a **current, externally funded** ARC, industry, government, or philanthropic grant, provide details of the grant (including the grant title, funding scheme, funding period, and involvement of members of the supervisory team) and explain how your project contributes to the grant’s aims and outcomes. (Max. 100 words.) |
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