

FREE RESEARCH RESOURCE

Thesis Proposal Checklist

Twelve decision checks before supervisor, committee, or proposal-review submission.

How to use this resource

Work through each item against your own programme, institution, supervisor guidance, ethics approval, verified sources, and actual data. Mark items only when you can show the supporting evidence or decision record.

1. RESEARCH PROBLEM AND SCOPE

1. Research problem and scope

- [] The proposal states a specific, evidence-supported problem rather than only a broad topic.
- [] The population, setting, unit of analysis, variables, or key concepts are clearly bounded.
- [] The project is feasible within available time, access, skills, software, and ethical constraints.

2. ALIGNMENT

2. Alignment

- [] The title, problem, purpose, questions, objectives, and contribution describe the same study.
- [] Every research question maps to an objective, evidence source, and realistic analysis route.
- [] Terms, constructs, variables, and expected relationships are used consistently throughout.

3. LITERATURE AND FRAMEWORK

3. Literature and framework

- [] The literature review compares evidence, methods, contexts, and disagreements rather than listing studies.
- [] The claimed gap follows from current and verifiable scholarship.
- [] The theory or conceptual framework has a clear role in the questions, design, or interpretation.

4. METHOD, ETHICS, AND PRESENTATION

4. Method, ethics, and presentation

- [] The design, sampling, data source, instrument, procedure, analysis, and quality criteria are specified.
- [] Consent, confidentiality, data management, foreseeable risks, and approval requirements are addressed.
- [] The official template, word limit, timeline, citation style, references, tables, and appendices are complete.

Next step

Read the full guide at thesiswritinginstitute.com/blog/thesis-proposal-checklist/ or request a project-specific proposal review through the structured enquiry form.