

Azrieli Graduate School Dissertation Proposal Outline

Introduction: 2 - 3 Pages

As its name implies, the point of this section is to provide a broad overview of the topic to be pursued. General directions and trends, some justification for investing in this research and a broad expectation of what will be the value of the findings and for whom. A quote or two from a respected source or authority might supplement these introductory notes.

That said, it is far too early to provide much detail regarding prior research, current methods or the author's qualifications to undertake such a project. The primary objective of this section is to offer just enough information and detail to inspire the reader to turn the page, read further and consider the merits of the proposal.

Review of the Literature: 15 - 25 Pages

This is generally the longest section of the proposal. Your objectives in this section are twofold. First you need to demonstrate your mastery of the subject. You do this by critically reviewing the relevant published research related to your field of study.

You may reach back to older classic findings or landmark treatments. However, the focus should be on your familiarity with the most current and forward-looking available data and trends. Aside from

This may be presented in the form of a series of assertive statements or of pointed questions that test the propositions or debates emerging from the literature you reviewed. Additionally, there

As you conclude this section it is appropriate to consider the limitations of what you propose. That may mean emphasizing what you will **not** be doing as much as what you will do. Moreover, what limits are imposed by the sample size, by the contours of the population or by the instruments you will employ. Similarly, are there challenges to be expected by the environment or by the general circumstances within which the research will be pursued?

Conclusion: 2 - 3 Pages

As its title suggests, this section allows you to “wrap-up” all that has preceded. That may mean a brief review of what you propose, why and with whom. It also may include a bit about yourself and your qualifications to undertake such a research project.

In addition, it is proper to consider what are the likely implications for the findings you anticipate. How might they be implemented in practice? What contributions will they make to the field of study and of practice? Also, where might they lead regarding future trends, research or application.

Bibliography: as long as needed

The bibliography should be formatted in APA style.

February 6, 2025 - MK