



The concept note should be no more than 5 pages (excluding the cover page, references, and appendices).

NB: All applicants must complete this cover page

Full names and surname	
Roll No.	
Telephone number	
Email address	
Mentor	

Format for Concept Note

I Introduction

- 1.1 Background and Context
- 1.2 Motivation
- 1.3 Research Problem/ Question
- 1.4 Objectives of the Study (not action steps)
- 1.5 Hypothesis (if any)
- 1.6 Significance of the study

II Literature Review

- 2.1 Theoretical Review
- 2.2 Empirical Review
- 2.3 Gaps in the Literature
- 2.4 Theoretical/Conceptual Framework
- 2.5 Operational Definition of Variables

III Methodology

- 3.1 Research Design
- 3.2 Sample and Sampling
- 3.3 Data Collection Tools
- 3.4 Data Collection Procedure
- 3.5 Ethical Considerations
- 3.6 Data Analysis (Plans)
- 3.7 Limitations of the Study

IV Gantt Chart

V References

VI Appendixes

PROPOSED TITLE

(The title should accurately and briefly reflect the contents of the study):

A title should simply and, if possible, stylishly summarize the main idea of the concept paper. It should be a concise statement of the main topic that identifies the variables or theoretical issues under investigation and their relationship.

1. Introduction

- Background and Context: Brief introduction and contextualisation of the study
- Motivation : What bothers you or are you curious about that warrants a research response?
What is the gap/niche for this study?
- Research Problem or Question (The research question should be logically set such that it will address the need/gap for carrying out the proposed research)
- Objectives of the Study : Clearly mention in simple sentences objectives of your study.
Breakdown objectives into general and specific objectives.
- Hypothesis: Only if needed, you can write null &/or alternative hypotheses. Make sure your research demands hypotheses before you state them.
- Significance of the Study: Write how your objectives will contribute, who will be benefitted?

2. Summary of Preliminary Literature Review

Provide a synthesis of the relevant literature in a manner that demonstrates that you are familiar with the key authors, texts, and central concepts relevant to your study. You need to show how your study will contribute to what we already know, to fill the niche/gap identified in the introduction. Focus on situating your research within the academic domain and substantiating the research question. This section also includes conceptual frame which will be based on the literature reviewed and must follow by operational definitions of key concepts. **(At least seven research articles).**

- Theoretical Review
- Empirical Review
- Gaps in the literature
- Theoretical/Conceptual framework

3. Proposed Research Methodology and Method

Provide a detailed, practical explanation of your research plan – why (methodology – logic of the method) and how (method) you intend to do the study. Avoid lengthy theoretical explanations (e.g. definitions of what a sample is), except where you are using less familiar methods.

Methodology is important and may warrant considerable space to describe adequately. As a general guide, provide:

- A brief introduction to the methodology (e.g. qualitative, quantitative, or mixed).
- Explicate the specific research design/approach (e.g., exploratory, descriptive, case study, narrative, phenomenology)
- Define the population, sample, sampling method, and recruitment activities. Be as specific as possible, e.g., give intended sample size and motivation for sampling method.
- Describe the methods of data collection (tools, recording, etc). For quantitative tools, provide evidence of reliability and validity of the tools. For qualitative approaches, provide examples of the questions you intend to ask participants. Fully describe any other type of information (e.g., blogs, photographs, drawings) as well as the way you intend to collect these. Indicate how these types of information will assist in answering the research questions.
- For qualitative studies, briefly explain how you will develop the guidelines for the data collection.
- The method you will use will be pre-determined by the research question. Make sure that the method you choose be well suited to address the research question.
- Describe how you will analyse your data.
- Ethical considerations: For all research involving human participants (and any other research with ethical considerations, such as research on animals, human remains, etc) careful consideration must be given to the ethical risks and the methods to reduce such risk. As a norm for research involving human participants, we require written informed consent, voluntary participation, and participant anonymity and/or confidentiality. Also specify how you will store data in a secure manner to ensure the protection of participant anonymity/confidentiality.

7 Gantt Chart (Should include timeline from the defense of the concept note, to submission of thesis)

9 References

List of references (Please begin “References” on a new page)

List ALL references in alphabetical order. Follow the most recent APA 7th guidelines

List only works that are cited in the body of the proposal.

The Department supports APA 7th for citation, references, table, line spacing, font, margin and pagination. Headings should be numbered....

<https://apastyle.apa.org/> (visit the site for APA 7th guidelines)

<https://www.facebook.com/PsyResearchNp> (visit the page for additional guidelines/documents)

10. Appendices, Additional information

General Checklist for Students

- In the title, avoid using terms like A study on, A thesis on. Try to cover your title in approximately 12 words
- Use title case for each title
- Font Times New Roman, 12
- Line spacing double, Alignment left
- Strictly follow the APA system for citations and references, APA 7th
- Check citation reference mismatch
- Avoid the use of AI to generate content.
- Check whether your concept note is harmonious in terms of title, objectives, hypothesis, methodology, data analysis procedure, and results.
- Check citation pattern, citation for direct quotes, primary and secondary citations, etc.
- Check for the page number on each page. The page number must be in top right corner.
- Check for sampling procedure and calculation of sample size wherever needed
- Check whether **you have explicit permission from the authors of the text**
- Only use abbreviations (except for universal ones) by putting them in the list of abbreviations and at least writing the complete form (followed by the abbreviation in bracket) at least once.