



## RESEARCH PLAN INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICANTS OF OPPI DOCTORAL PROGRAMME (10–12 pages)

**NB! The Doctoral Programme OPPI is primarily for producing dissertations based on articles published in international scientific journals. An article-based dissertation is required from those in funded doctoral candidate positions (salary positions).**

**If the doctoral dissertation is planned to be written in English, it is recommended to write the research plan in English.**

In writing your research plan, follow very carefully the structure and instructions given below. The length of the research plan may not exceed 12 pages (including all tables and references). If the instructions are not followed, it can lead to the rejection of the application.

1. Name of applicant
2. Title of the research
3. Background of the research (2–3 pages)
  - significance of the research and theoretical background
  - previous research pertaining to the topic and how the research project links to it (review of central literature)
4. Objectives (about 1 page)
  - purpose of the study
  - research questions (and outcome expectations or hypotheses)
5. Research methods and material, ethical issues (3–4 pages)
  - detailed account of participants (including sampling procedure, number of participants), design, data collection procedures, specific equipment to be used, described so as to explain how they will contribute to answering the research questions and/or confirming the hypotheses or how they will support the chosen approach
  - detailed account of research material and data analyses procedures to be used (e.g., tests, inventories, interviews, nature of data analysis, statistical analyses); when using any method of analysis, specify which method will be used; if the method requires use of a specific software tool, please specify the tool
  - ethical issues related to research methods and material (e.g. ethical governance procedures, informed consent, anonymity of subjects) and research permits or information on pending permit applications
  - risk management: critical points, alternative ways to implement the project
  - please indicate commitment to the Data policy of the University of Turku. (See <https://www.utu.fi/en/research/open-science/research-data-and-data-policy>)
6. Implementation: timetable, distribution of work (1 page)
  - timetable for the research (year by year)
  - publication plan (a plan about publishing the articles of an article-based dissertation)



7. Plan for collaboration and mobility (1 page)

- national and international collaboration
- planned visits abroad related to research and doctoral studies (including conferences)
- justifications for mobility: how the visits or work periods elsewhere contribute to research plan implementation.

8. Expected results and possible risks (1/2 page)

- expected scientific and societal impact of the research
- potential for scientific breakthroughs and for increasing the capacity for renewal of science and research, identification of risks
- applicability and feasibility of the research results
- publishing of results and raising awareness among potential end-users, the scientific community and the general public

9. Bibliography