

## GUIDELINES FOR THE RESEARCH PROJECT

The objective of the project is to conceive, plan, execute and report a study relevant to family medicine. Each student will undertake the project under the direction of an assigned supervisor. A written report of the study will be critically evaluated by the supervisor and when approved will be submitted to two graduate studies faculty members of the Department of Family Medicine for evaluation. Appropriate feedback will be given to the student. The project will be completed when it is suitable for presentation at a public forum (research meeting or free-standing paper session) or submission to a peer reviewed journal.

### DETAILS:

The student is required to submit a research proposal (max. 8 pages) to the Chair of the Graduate Studies Program outlining their research plan. The following outlines the format of the proposal:

### CONTENTS

- 1. Introduction (3-4 pages)**
  - 1.1. Identify the problem / issue to be studied
  - 1.2. Brief key literature review leading to rationale and objectives of the study
  - 1.3. Objectives of study
  - 1.4. The research question
- 2. Proposed Methodology (1-2 pages)**
  - 2.1. Research design
  - 2.2. Sampling techniques (including sample size calculation if appropriate)
  - 2.3. Data sources and collection techniques
  - 2.4. Data analysis and interpretation
  - 2.5. Ethical considerations such as: confidentiality, informed consent.
- 3. Personal Work Plan and Timeline for Completion (1 page)**
- 4. References (Expectation is that you review 8-10 papers)**

This proposal is then presented at a Graduate Studies Committee meeting for approval and to assign a supervisor.

Before the student progresses, the proposal should receive formal written approval from the supervisor and/or the Chair - according to Departmental Guidelines.

The student will report on the project using an accepted format appropriate to the study design. It will be typed, double spaced, and include a title page. It will be submitted **to the Chair of the Graduate Studies Program following the supervisor's written approval.**

The project will then be evaluated by two other graduate faculty members of the department. The reviewers are expected to provide comments and recommendations to assist the student in preparing a paper suitable for presentation at a public forum or submission for publication, at which time the project is considered complete.

**PLEASE NOTE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF RESEARCH PROJECTS IS TWO MONTHS PRIOR TO THE UNIVERSITY DEADLINE TO ENSURE ADEQUATE TIME FOR REVISIONS, AND PROJECTS ARE TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE CHAIR OF THE GRADUATE STUDIES PROGRAM**

SAMPLE TITLE PAGE

**TITLE OF RESEARCH PROJECT OR MAJOR ESSAY**

By

STUDENTS NAME

Department of Family Medicine

A RESEARCH PROJECT OR MAJOR ESSAY (please indicate which) submitted  
in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of  
Master of Clinical Science

School of Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies  
Western University  
London, Ontario

DATE

Supervisor(s):