Appendix

Guidelines for writing “research proposal” for the degree Philosophiae Doctor at Nord University Business School
(Passed April 4, 2000. Revised March 13, 2018.)

Requirements of content:
1. The first page with the title, name and affiliation/department.
2. The abstract on its own page.
3. The introduction (approx. 700 words).
   Present the problem complex including definition of central concepts. Argue for choice of research question(s) and specify gaps in existing knowledge and the scientific contribution of the dissertation.
4. The main overview of relevant literature on which your proposed research will be based. A tentative lining-up of research issues and/or hypotheses (approx. 1500 words).
5. Methodological reflections.
   Discuss scientific approaches and consider methodological anchoring including data collection and analysis. If possible/desirable, specify research model with independent and dependent variables, etc. (approx. 1500 words).
6. A discussion of research ethics relevant for the work.
   Include a specification of the type of dissertation, monograph or article-based, with a rationale (cross reference section 10-1 in the regulations, approx. 300 words).
7. The progress plan, budget and financing.
   Specify the doctoral courses completed and planned (cross reference section 8-1 in the regulations). Propose main- and assistant supervisors. (approx. 400 words).

Formal requirements:
1. The proposal is to be written in English.
2. The proposal should be approximately 4000-5000 words (double line space, pitch 12).
   The first page, abstract, reference list and possible attachments/appendices are additional. Footnotes and/or closing notes are permitted. Paragraphs are to be indicated by an indented line (not a page shift).
4. Choose a reference system (e.g., APA or Harvard) and be consistent when writing the proposal. Consider using Endnote or other reference manager.
   https://www.nord.no/en/library/Pages/default.aspx
5. Figures and tables are, as far as possible, to be presented in the text. The figure number and name are to be placed above the figures concerned, whereas table numbers and names are to be placed below the tables concerned.