

# Project description

The project description should be between 3500-4500 words, excluding references. Information underneath the item "other" (see below) is included in this wordcount. The project description should be written in a Scandinavian language or English, ideally in the same language the thesis itself will be written.

The project should be described in a way such that it can be easily understood even by those who are not experts in the field. It is not only the academic content that will be considered, but also how the applicant demonstrates their ability to communicate their planned research.

It is recommended that the applicant begin with a brief summary of the project description, where the research problem(s) is explained as simply possible.

Additionally, the following structure is recommended:

- Title, as short and precise as possible.
- Summary of project description, brief with a clear problem statement.
- Introduction, showing the motivation for selecting this research topic.
- Previous research on the research problem, including expected contributions of previous research and practice.
- Theoretical framework, including which theories will be used, the grounds for their selection, their relevance to sociological analysis, and the theories significance to the research project.
- Methods, including research design, selection, collection, and analysis of empirical material.
- Other:
  - o Affiliation to a research network or community
  - o Progress plan for the entire study period
  - o Finance plan or budget
  - o Account of necessary infrastructure or equipment
  - o Detailing of guidance requirements and suggested internal supervisors
  - o Any planned stay with other research institutions

The following points further specify recommended structures:

## Title

The project description must include a project title. The title will indicate what the project is about and which field of research the project is most directly connected. The title should be as short and precise as possible.

### Summary

It is recommended that the applicant begin with a short summary of the project description, where the research problem is presented as simply as possible.

### Previous research and problem statement

The project description should contain a problem statement for the research. The problem statement should specify and delineate the research area, and be formulated as a theoretical or practical problem. The project's originality and relevance to other research in the field should be clear. The applicant should demonstrate their awareness of the field, both nationally and internationally. This information should be presented before the problem statement so that the expected contribution of the work is clear within the problem statement itself. The description should show how the project can supplement previous research and contribute to generating new knowledge. The applicant is advised to discuss expected knowledge contributions as well as implications for people/society/organizations etc.

### Theoretical framework

Applicants should provide a brief description of the theoretical framework of the problem, explain which theory(s) will be used and why they are considered useful. The applicant must also explain the sociological relevance of the project.

### Methods

The project's methodological approach should be presented and discussed. The projects overall research design, selection, data collection, and analysis should be explained. The connection between the research problem, theory and methods must be clarified.

### Other

In addition to the above requirements regarding the project description, there are several additional requirements which must be included. If the following are not relevant, this must be justified separately.

- Research network or community. The application should clarify any potential partnerships or research networks that the applicant may be connected to, both locally, nationally, and internationally..
- Progress plan. The application should contain a progress plan for the entire study period, showing that the project can be carried out within the normal time period. This should include the time and duration of main project activities, such as planning, data collection, analysis, and reporting. Additionally, it should include estimated plans for commencement, midterm, and final seminars, as well as any courses planned as part of the training component.
- Financial plan. Normally, accepted applicants have full financing or are employed in scientific positions with time for their own research. Applicants in a scientific position

at a faculty other than FSV or at another institution must document the extent of research time in the position for the period covered by the progress plan. Applicants who are not fully financed or have a scientific position with research time can be admitted if it can be proven through application and documentation that the PhD program can be completed in accordance with the progress plan.

- Account of necessary infrastructure or equipment. If there is a need for infrastructure (travel through data collection, aids, recording equipment, analysis programs, literature, etc.) beyond what the faculty normally offers, it should be specified in the application. The application must clarify how any additional costs will be covered.
- Statement regarding supervision requirements and proposed internal supervisor. The application should propose at least one potential supervisor, and that supervisor should normally be an employee at the faculty.
- Planned stays with other research institutions. If there are any planned stays with research institutions, the institution and the names of any contact persons should be included in the application.