

Formal Requirements for Proposals at the IGN

Your proposal should be **between 750 and 1.000 words** long and include the following:

- Working title (1 line max.)
- Relevance of research topic and research interest
- Research questions (4 max.)
- Methodology
- Preliminary list of references (10 sources max.)
- Preliminary structure of thesis (6 sections max., 1. Introduction, 5. Conclusion and 6. References; 1 heading level below max.)
- Preliminary work schedule

Content-related Requirements for Proposals at the IGN

When developing your proposal, you should take a few questions in account:

What is driving your thesis?

What is your research interest? Is there a problem, a misconception, a research gap that you identify? Answering this question will lead to your research topic and research question(s).

How do you want to achieve your research objective?

How do you want to resolve that problem or fill the knowledge gap? Following this question will lead to your research steps and the heading structure of your proposal.

What method should you use?

At WU you are not expected to conduct an empirical study in your Bachelor's thesis. In most cases, the method of your choice will be a „hermeneutic literature analysis“, that is the scientific interpretation of texts. This may be supplemented by empirical elements. If you are interested in conducting a primarily empirical study, please make sure that you have successfully completed one of the methods courses at WU.

How long should your thesis be?

In total your thesis should reach about 8.000 words (+/- 10%), without references, list of tables and list of figures. You might think otherwise, but that is not a lot of space! You should narrow your research topic down on a specific aspect of your interest, in order to keep a certain degree of precision.