



**School of Social Policy Social Work and Social Justice,**  
**University College Dublin**

**PhD Proposal**

PhD Proposals should generally consist of the following information. Individual PhD supervisors might request slightly different specific information, depending on the topic

- a) **Working title and short description of the project:** this is a brief statement of the research question/problem to be investigated (c. 70 words).
- b) **A description of the project:** state (i) the aims and objectives of the study; (ii) the central research questions and (iii) give an account of the scope and limitations of the research (c. 1,000 words).
- c) **Description of the relationship of the project to existing research.** Suggest how the project will make a new contribution to knowledge, drawing on relevant literature (c. 1,500 - 2000 words).
- d) **Methodology:** include, for example, the investigative and analytic methods that might be used, your reasons for choosing these methods and the theoretical and conceptual frameworks with which you expect to engage (c. 800 words).
- e) **Research Plan:** include, for example, a schedule for the completion of tasks/phases of the project and efficient management and performance of the research (c. 400 words).
- f) **Bibliography** (supply a two-page bibliography for your topic).

Enquire should be directed either to individual members of staff whose research areas (as listed on the website) align with your research topic or to Dr. Muireann Ní Raghallaigh, Director of Graduate Studies ([Muireann.niraghallaigh@ucd.ie](mailto:Muireann.niraghallaigh@ucd.ie)) or Elizabeth Hassell, School Manager ([Elizabeth.Hassell@ucd.ie](mailto:Elizabeth.Hassell@ucd.ie))