

## **Research Proposal (First Term Progress Report)**

Submitted by

**FirstName LastName (2AXXXX)**

### **Professional Background**

In this **1 page** please write about you...(it is possible that you may have already given such write up when you came to talk to Prof. Rajasekera; but, please include it here as well)

- Start with your education....what did you major in the university
- State your job experiences, if any, and your carrier goals...
- Explain why you want to do research with Prof. Rajasekera, whose research interests can be found in this website. If you can align with his areas, that may be useful.

**Note:** Upon talking with you and other students, Prof. Rajasekera may decide to allow you conduct your research alone or assign on a research theme where other students also work. But, you will write your own research report (no group thesis is allowed by Prof. Rajasekera).

### **Proposed Research Title**

Give a meaningful title to your research. This is very important. In this webpage, there is a PowerPoint presentation which you can go through to learn how to come up with a suitable research title. Click the link which says: [Research Methodology Guide \(Copyrighted pdf file\)](#) in Thesis Guidelines link, on the left panel, on Prof. Rajasekera's homepage.

### **Background**

Provide a background as to why you selected this research title (It is possible that you discussed with Prof. Rajasekera already and you and he jointly came up with this title; if that's the case, please say so).

### **Objective**

Write the objective or objectives that can be gained by conducting this research. It could be something that would benefit your country, your job, or your future career.

### **List the tentative Table of Contents (TOC)**

It is possible you may not have complete idea about the Chapter headings or sections. But, please try giving as much as you can. In this progress report, you may want to conduct some search using Google, Google Scholar, EBSCOhost (a journal article searchable database available via IUJ MLIC Library homepage) etc.

A TOC must have an **Introduction** Chapter. To be followed by 4-5 other chapters. TOC may also include a **Conclusion** Chapter and a **References** list. As you make progress in research, you may find that some additional detail, such as big Tables of Data, large Diagrams, etc is needed to make the research report complete. Such can be included in an Appendix.

The complete Research Report/Thesis guideline is given in Prof. Rajasekera's **Thesis Guidelines homepage** (please see [general guidelines](#) section).

Please note that, in general, a final Research Report or Thesis should not be more than 30 pages, according to Prof. Rajasekera's own guide. In the same time, it must have valuable content. Writing a valuable report or thesis within 30 pages is not easy. In some cases it is necessary that thesis exceeds 30 pages and such can be discussed with the professor.

### **Methodology**

Explain the research methods that you may use and explain how you collect the data (primary as well as secondary). As the report progress you will have more things to say. But, for this progress report (written after 2-3 weeks of initial meeting), you just write what you feel doable.

**Note:** While grading professor will take into account the following:

- Clarity of writing
- Use of reasonably correct grammar (it is your responsibility to write sentences that could be understood by the reader. Before submitting you should read the whole document by yourself several times).
- Value of the contents (that means "do not write nonsense")
- Sticking to the submission deadlines.

This **whole progress report can be between 3-5 pages**, including 1 page for your professional background, 1 page for TOC). Some students do considerable work and submit even drafts of one or two chapters – that's OK, if you can submit something that has value (meaning "do not submit garbage")

Please **submit a MS Word file (Office 2003 version)** via e-mail. If you come for discussions, please bring a printed copy as well.