



Mises Graduate School Thesis Proposal Outline

Introduction (1/2-1 page)

- What is the general topic area?
- What is the specific scope of your research interest?

Literature Review (1-2 pages)

- The literature review should be a well-organized overview of the research most closely related to your work.
- This might likely include the dominant debates, theoretical approaches, methodological research designs that have been used to understand your topic
- Understand that you are trying to demonstrate two things:
 - You are familiar with the research that has been done in this area, essentially what is out there
 - You have found a gap or “lacuna” in the literature...something that has not been well researched (or not been researched utilizing a certain theoretical perspective or methodological design)

Research Question and Contribution (1-2 pages)

- A concise formulation of your specific research question.
 - What is the problem or issue that you are addressing?
 - Why is your research question important?
 - Why past attempts to solve it have been inadequate or nonexistent?
 - How your research will contribute to its solution?

Research Methodology (1-2 pages)

- What is your methodology (deductive, historical, empirical)?
- What data (if applicable) do you plan to use and/or collect?