

# **Thesis Proposal**

Dr. Njoki Wane

Professor

Visiting Scholar

University of Toronto

# Outline

- Preamble
- Introduction
- Thesis statement
- Literature Review
- Theoretical framework
- Methodology
- Work plan including time table
- Implications of research

# Quote by Kumar

“Knowledge is not outside oneself. It is already there. It is covered with a golden disc of illusions. By being aware, awake and present in the moment one is able to release the free spirit within.... (kumar, 2003, p. 61-62).

# Initial steps

- Make an outline of your thesis proposal before you start writing
- Prepare figures and tables
- Start reading widely on your topic
- Talk about your idea to your supervisor and ask him/her what they think?
- Methods

# Purpose

- the thesis topic addresses a significant problem;
- an organized plan is in place for collecting or obtaining data to help solve the problem;
- The methods of data analysis have been identified and are appropriate to the data set.

- identified an issue that you would like to investigate,
- Significance, new knowledge to your area of specialization.
- background
- Supervisor - Good compatibility means, you have a good marriage that will not end up splitting before the end of your journey.

# Title page

- A catchy title – that should give an idea of your study.
- author, institution, department,

# Abstract

- the abstract is a brief summary of your thesis proposal
- length about 200 words
- It should have brief introduction
- make the key statement of your thesis
- give a summary of how you want to address the issue
- include a possible implication of your work



# Table of contents

- list all headings and subheadings with page numbers
- indent subheadings

# Introduction

- Your introduction sets the context for your proposed study and must capture the reader's interest.
- background literature
- Theories
- Methods
- Significance.

# Thesis Statement

- The statement can take the form of hypothesis, research questions, project statement or goal statement. That is in a couple of sentences, state your thesis. This statement should capture the essence of the intended study.

# Literature Review

- An extensive literature review of your topic is a must. A good literature review will enable you to highlight the gaps that you want to study.

# Theoretical Framework

- The theories employed for your study must speak to your topic. You must provide a rationale as to why you are situating your work on them.

# Methodology

- The methodology contains an overall description of your approach, materials, and procedures, such as what methods will be used? How will data be collected and analyzed? What materials will be used? In your methodology you include technique, procedure, equipment, detail limitations, assumptions, and range of validity.

# Work plan including time table

- This section provide detailed plan of your work until completion. What you are supposed to do is to list the stages of your project in a table format, indicating the deadlines you have set you have for yourself for each stage of the project. In this section, you can also discuss any particular challenges that need to be overcome

# Implications of Research

- What are the implication of your research, what new knowledge will the proposed project produce that we do not already know? Why is it worth knowing, what are the major implications?



# Discussion

- Asante sana