

FAQ on Postgraduate Supervision

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What template should I use?

Please use the LaTeX template available on <http://riteshajoodha.co.za/attachments/WITSReferencingExample.zip>.

This template also contains the correct referencing for your research writing.

How can I send my research to my supervisor for review?

Firstly make sure that you are using the correct LaTeX template. Secondly, when sending a revised version of the same document use DraftTable (<https://drafttable.com/compare>) to highlight the difference between the old and new version. Then send me the following to ritesh.ajoodha@wits.ac.za:

1. The new version
2. The difference of the old and new version (generated by DraftTable).

How many pages should my research proposal/dissertation be?

Research proposals should not be more **than 20 pages**. Faculty suggests the following guidelines: A Research Proposal should include the following components:

- Introduction
- Aim
- Hypotheses and Questions
- Methodology
- Work plan

Guidelines on the length of a Research Proposal:

- PhD [\pm 3000 words]
- MSc (dissertation) [\pm 3000 words]
- MSc (coursework and research report) [1500 to 1800 words]

Where can I find my deadlines for my research milestones?

All deadlines are provided by Faculty (science.pg@wits.ac.za) and can be accessed using the student portal (<https://self-service.wits.ac.za/>).

Who can I contact to amend registration/research titles/proposal deadlines?

Contact any of the following PG Senior Faculty Officers:

Mpumi Mngapu	(011) 7176021	Mpumi.Mngapu1@wits.ac.za
Louise Du Plooy	(011) 7176004	Louise.DuPlooy@wits.ac.za
Leeshia Roopnarain	(011) 7176002	Leeshia.Roopnarain@wits.ac.za

You will have to complete a few forms and send them to me to sign-off.

What does the Science Teaching and Learning Unit offer?

The Science Teaching and Learning Unit (STLU) offers support to students through a range of workshops, short-courses and one-on-one consultations. This includes:

- Academic literacies and academic writing for students through workshops, short-courses and one-on-one consultations. Contact Ms Marike Kluyts (marike.kluyts@wits.ac.za) for more information.
- Student Wellness and Learning Facilitation. Contact Mr Grant Demas (grant.demas@wits.ac.za).
- Academic Advising, including helping students to identify a scientific career path best suited to them, integrating into the academic environment through a peer-mentoring programme, identify areas that affect their well-being and academic performance, and referring students to the appropriate support structures within the university. Contact Dr. Irene Kamara (irene.kamara@wits.ac.za)

What should a good literature review or research proposal look like?

There isn't a perfect research proposal. However, there is an accepted standard. You can find some examples of what I consider to be "good" research proposals using the following link: <http://riteshajoodha.co.za/attachments/Good-Literature-Reviews.pdf>

Where is my supervisors office, and what are his consultation hours?

My office is in the Mathematical Science Building, Office UG 17. During the COVID-19 lockdown I will be meeting with students online by appointment only. Please email me on ritesh.ajoodha@wits.ac.za to set up an online meeting.

How can I generate a turn-it-in report?

You can generate a turn-it-in report using sakai (<https://wits-e.wits.ac.za/portal>). Contact ICT for more information.

How can I contact ICT?

Under the lockdown scenario, the IT Operations has been reconfigured to operate remotely thereby changing the normal operational model. Under these conditions, users are encouraged to do the following arranged according to priority:

1. Log their own call using the Ivanti app which can be downloaded from the Google Play Store (Android) and Apple App Store (IOS). Click here for the 'How to guide" in setting up the Ivanti app.
2. Log their own call on ITSM by going to this address: <https://witshelp-ism.saasiteu.com/>
3. Email ithelp@wits.ac.za
4. Calls are discouraged at this moment.

The team has been reconfigured to focus on calls logged via the app, the URL and email. Options such as use of WhatsApp have been considered and discouraged as it would introduce new issues and tracking of calls would be impossible which is used to manage issues and proactively deal with problems to prevent them from occurring.