

UNIT 7: THE DISSERTATION

EXERCISE

Please note: you do not have to do this exercise at the beginning of your programme of study. You will have to complete it before you proceed to Part II of the programme.

Write a research proposal for your dissertation. The proposal should be approximately 2,000 words in length. You should provide a working title; formulate the research question that the dissertation will attempt to answer; provide some background/ context to the question; discuss the methodology you will use; provide an overview of the primary sources you expect to use as well as a review of the secondary literature relevant to your research question; and append a bibliography of the main primary and secondary sources.

This proposal should be handed in to your Programme Coordinator in the first instance, and thereafter to your nominated supervisor, towards the end of part I of your programme. **This is a formative exercise and will neither be marked nor counted towards your credits for this module or for the dissertation itself.**

If you are planning to complete the module on Empirical Research Methods at Part I of your MA, you will be required to submit a 5,000-word proposal as the assessment task for that module. You need not then write a separate 2,000-word proposal. It is the 5,000-word piece which will form the basis of your discussions with your Programme Coordinator and dissertation supervisor.