

Research Proposal

This Research proposal is very important (50% of the final evaluation). Please be aware that most or all of the field work must be undertaken in Europe.

Task: To write, in English, a proposal for a PhD thesis on a topic related to a question relevant for the field of knowledge (maximum 8 000 words).

Structure:

- a) A precise question to be further investigated. This question could be formulated within your own plans for the PhD. Linking questions, approaches and methods within different disciplines is a merit.
- b) Argue for the importance of your question from at least two perspectives: its scientific relevance and its relevance for a welfare and health perspective.
- c) Present a framework for the question, making the connection between specific question and its wider social context. Refer to theoretical works and empirical evidence (join a bibliographical list of twenty important references), suggesting a “model” indicating that such links exist. You should make a convincing case for the reader implying that there is a good reason to carry out further investigations in order to test hypotheses or further deepen the knowledge.
- d) Refer to types of data which would be valid for information and further understanding. Indicate theories and/or hypotheses that can be tested by these data and the methods to be used (content analysis of texts, statistical analysis, questionnaire/survey, open interviews, ‘anthropological’ community studies, etc..).
- e) In the selection process the following research themes will be privileged:
 - Pandemics and/or re-emerging diseases - social responses, risks and prevention;
 - Chronic diseases in society and everyday life - physical disabilities, dementia, etc;
 - Health and social differentials - age, gender, ethnicity disability, marginalization, etc;
 - Health and welfare systems during rapid change - social, political and institutional aspects;
 - Implementation of knowledge and health policies in difficult social contexts;
 - Comparative perspectives on poverty, poor relief and public health - ideology, policy and practice;
 - Comparative perspectives on public health - ideology, policy and practice;
 - Health and welfare institutions in a comparative perspective;
 - High-tech and institutional management of health care;
 - Ethical, legal, cultural and/or socioeconomic aspects on contemporary health care (social distribution and equity, impacts of scientific and technological innovations in reproductive medicine, the transplantation market, genetic manipulation, etc.);
 - Societal perspectives on the pharmaceutical market.
 - Poor relief and health care in the early modern period
 - Health care and the state building