

**Initial PhD Proposal** - **University of Humanistic Studies - Graduate School**

**Name PhD Applicant:**

**Professional position and organisation:**

**Research topic (refer to list on [UvH.nl](https://www.uvh.nl/university-of-humanistic-studies/graduate-school/available-research-topics-and-research-fields)) and supervisor:**

**Title proposed PhD Research:**

1. **Introduction of the research**

*Briefly describe the main problem which you will focus on in your research: what is the problem you want to study: what is going on in society, your academic field, your profession, or your field of interest that deserves an in-depth study? What is it that you are possibly confused but in any case curious about? This section needs to based on academic literature; please refer to the sources used* ***(min. 200- max. 400 words)***

1. **Academic and societal relevance**

*Why do you think that this research is necessary? Briefly describe the scientific and the social relevance of your research. What are the academic and societal debates you want to contribute to? What are the main positions in this field? What is already known, and knowledge is missing and how will your research contribute to filling this gap? Or what is the main controversy and how will your research help to elucidate this controversy This section needs to based on academic literature; please refer to the sources used* ***(min. 400 – max.600 words)***

*Please list two academic authors who also focus on this problem and briefly discuss why you find their work relevant and interesting for your own research. Also discuss how you think your research will add something to what they have written already* ***(max. 200 words)***

1. **Embedding in UvH research program**

*To stimulate cooperation and coherence, all our research – including that of PhDs- should contribute to our research program. Please study the UvH Research Program (*[Our research - University of Humanistic Studies (uvh.nl)](https://www.uvh.nl/university-of-humanistic-studies/research/our-research) and [Chair groups and research projects - University of Humanistic Studies (uvh.nl)](https://www.uvh.nl/university-of-humanistic-studies/research/chair-groups-and-research-projects) *) and briefly describe how you think your research resonates with its main themes (Humanism, Meaningful Living and A Just and Caring Society) and the identified challenges, and how you research will contribute to the program and its challenges* ***(max. 200 words)***

1. **Research Aim and Key Question**

*Describe the main aim of your research* ***(min. 50 - max. 100 words)***

*Formulate the main question and sub questions that will guide your research*

***(min. 25 - max 50 words)***

1. **Research Design and Methods**

*Describe what* ***type*** *of research you want to do (e.g. philosophical research, empirical research, historical research; more specific, case study research, ethnographic research, action research, survey research etc.) Briefly motivate your choices.* **(min. 100- max. 200 words)**

*In addition, please indicate what research methods you consider using (for example: questionnaire methods, discourse analysis, in-depth interviews, shadowing, participant observation, philosophical/ phenomenological/ constructivist analysis; focus groups etc.. Briefly motivate your choices.*

**(min. 100 - max. 200 words)**

1. **Reference**

Please add a list of the sources and references made in this proposal.