

# Research proposal form: Professional Doctorate in Education

You are expected to provide a 2,000-word proposal/research statement for a research study you would like to conduct if you are accepted on the course as part of your application.

This proposal/research statement will be reviewed by the relevant Higher Degrees Tutor and other members of academic staff. Assessors will wish to gain a clear understanding of your proposed research topic and existing knowledge. A key factor in assessing the suitability of each project proposal is whether the necessary supervisory expertise and capacity exists.

It is recognised that, when this research proposal becomes a research plan (following a successful application), research focus, questions and methods may change.

Please submit this form as part of your application. Those who do not may be asked to resubmit.

When considering your suitability for the course, we will be looking for:

* A focus on an area of policy, professional practice, learning, social or psychological issue or debate in education;
* Evidence of a high level of awareness in your chosen field or subject area;
* Evidence of critical and original thought;
* Evidence of a good standard of academic writing.

## Section 1 – to be completed by candidates

### Name

### Have you discussed your proposal with a BSU academic? If so, please provide their full name

## Section 2 – to be completed by candidates

### Provisional title

This should be kept simple, expressing the topic area that interests you.

### A clear focus with suggested research aims/questions

### A rationale for the study

### Some information about the context of the study, including some reference to academic and scholarly literature

### Methodology

Suggested research methods or a consideration of how you might undertake the research.

### An analytic or conceptual approach if appropriate

### Researcher context

Please explain how and why you have come to this research, why it interests you and what motivates that interest. How does it relate to what you have done (training, publications, work, practice, interests etc.? How will this help your career?

### A consideration of the expected benefits or impact of your research.

### Bibliography

(300 words max) – List those works you have read which have informed your knowledge of this topic.

### Briefly, explain specifically why you wish to undertake a research degree with Bath Spa University

### Further information

This space is for any further information you may wish to add.