

MS/PhD Prospectus Outline

Background



- Briefly review the most relevant literature
- Provide motivation for the proposed thesis/dissertation topic.
- Address the questions:
What have others done?
Why is it important?
What are the challenges?

Research Objectives



- Briefly list the objectives. The reader should be able to make this list based on the background section.

Proposed Research



- Describe the technical approach.
- Describe the scope of the project and note any delimitations if necessary.
- Describe the equipment and facilities required to complete the project.
- Describe any collaborative efforts.

Problem Statement




- Provide an overview of the problem.
 - Finish with an objective statement.
 - Address the question:
What work is being done?

Anticipated Research



- Describe any publications, (including publication venues) patents, or other scholarly products that are anticipated to result from the proposed project.

- 
- The prospectus should include title, reference, and signature pages.
 - Follow page limit guidelines for body of the prospectus.
 - MS students: 5 page limit
 - PhD students: 15 page limit
 - PhD students are required to defend their prospectus.