

Interuniversity Doctoral Programme in Urban and Regional Development

**Research Programme**

Title and subtitle

**Name SURNAME**

**Supervisors**

Prof. A.B.,Supervisor

Prof. C.D, Co-Supervisor

Politecnico di Torino – Università degli Studi di Torino

Month xx, 20xx

**Summary**

This is where you write your abstract … (Maximum 1 page in normal sized font, typeset with the thesis layout).

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Section 1

# Research topic

In this section (max 1 page) the candidate should report the (provisional) title of the proposed research thesis.

The candidate has also to provide a short description of the research topic, including a number of keywords.

## 1.1 Title

## 1.2 Research topic

## 1.3 Keywords

Section 2

# Research questions

In this section and related subsections, the candidate should illustrate the motivations (i.e. the reasons why she/he believes this choice should be interesting for the scientific and/or the social community) and the objectives of the proposed research.

Specific research questions should also be listed and illustrated in this section.

The total length of section 2 should be approximately 3 pages.

## 2.1 Motivations

## 2.2 Objectives

## 2.3 Specific research questions

Section 3

# Proposed methodology

The total length of section 3 should be approximately 10-20 pages.

## 3.1 Introduction

In this subsection the candidate should specify why the proposed theme has been chosen, clarifying its scientific interest and, possibly, its policy implications. This subsection should also describe any previous experience of the candidate (educational background, research and job experiences, personal interests, etc.) related to the proposed research.

## 3.2 Characteristics and aims of the research

In this subsection the characteristics and the general aims of the research programme should be described, with reference to both the theoretical/methodological/ critical-reflexive approach and the empirical and operational framework.

## 3.3 Methodological framework

The methodological framework of the research programme as well as the principal sources for the elaboration will be described in this subsection. As an example, the candidate must specify whether the proposed research will be based on case-studies analysis, which data and information will be considered, which method will be used, etc.

## 3.4 Expected results

This subsection aims at presenting the typology of the results expected from the research.

## 3.4 Contribution of the research

In this subsection the candidate should clarify the innovative contribution of the proposed research to existing scholarship on the topic.

## 3.5 Target subjects

In this subsection the candidate should illustrate the subjects to who the thesis is directed, clarifying the main domain of interest (social, political, environmental, etc.). This subsection is also devoted to present the areas in which the results of the analysis could be useful in terms of policy relevance and urban and regional development.

Section 4

# Framing of the research topic

This is the most important section of the research programme. It consists in an in-depth examination of the state of the art of the proposed topic.

This part requires an accurate analysis of the international scientific literature and the selection of the most relevant bibliography (articles, books and other types of scholarly sources).

Section 4 should be around 20-40 pages (or more) and should deal, although not exclusively, with the following subsequent issues:

1. Scientific background. An analysis of the evolution of the literature on the topic over time.
2. Methodological implications. A critical analysis of the main theoretical and methodological issues that the chosen topic raises.
3. Positioning your work and intellectual/scientific contribution. The contribution of the proposed research to existing theoretical and methodological strands that have been previously discussed.
4. Methodological outline. Proposed method and identification of different stages of the research process.

Section 5

# Research development

This section should clarify how the candidate intends to organise the dissertation. This should include a presentation of the overall structure of her/his work and a table of contents.

Section 6

# Schedule of the activities

This section should present a schedule of the activities for the second and the third year of the Ph.D. course, specifying the typology of the planned activities (courses, seminars, conferences, visiting research periods, expected publications etc.)

The candidate should make use of a Gantt chart for structuring the contents of section 6.

Section 7

# References

## 7.1 Already used

e.g.

Bunton, D. (2002). Generic moves in PhD thesis introductions. In J. Flowerdew, *Academic discourse* (p. 57-75). London: Pearson Education Limited.

…

## 7.2 To be used

e.g.

Kwan, B. S. (2009). Reading in preparation for writing a PhD thesis: Case studies of experiences. *Journal of English for Academic Purposes*, pages 180-191.

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