

[Your name _ Title of Your Research Plan _ Date]

Please find underneath some help for preparations of your research plan. The research plan is a continuously evolving plan. Remember to discuss your research plan with your supervising professor and thesis advisor(s).

Please use the working title of your doctoral research as the title of this research plan. Remember to include the date to be able to separate the different versions. Answer the questions suitable for your research plan at this moment. The questions and links are here to help you. When your knowledge increases, you are able to improve the plan. Don't worry if the first version does not include all the answers yet. The length of this first version is maximum 2 pages in A4 format.

Good research data management enables open science. Please find information on [Research Data Management and Open Science](#) and on how to choose a [scientific publication](#) for your research. [Research ethics](#) is important to be known of when you plan your study. More information from ["during your doctoral studies at Aalto"- pages](#).

Name the plan with your name, your research title and the date.

Research aim: research questions or objectives

- What are the research objectives of your study? What is the research question(s) you aim to answer? What will the study accomplish?
- What new scientific knowledge will the study provide?

Theoretical background

- Please shed some light on the background of your study by describing the problem to be solved and explaining why it needs to be solved.

Implementation: Methodology and methods

- Where, *with whom*, using what equipment, and how will the research be carried out? How will you collect data? How will you analyse data? Do you plan to use [Aalto infrastructures? What risks do you have – how to tackle them?](#)
- Open science issues are coming more and more important. For example, The Academy of Finland requires research [data management plan](#) to exist and that you publish as openly as possible.

Schedule

- Prepare a preliminary schedule for your doctoral studies, from start until graduation (max 4 years for full-time studies and max 8 years for part-time studies): courses (list in the Sisu credit plan), research work, publications, and doctoral thesis
- Include an estimate for when your doctoral thesis manuscript will be complete.
- Simple templates for visualizing your schedule (excel, word) at [Doctoral student forms](#) (aalto.fi)

Researcher mobility during your doctoral studies

- Do you have research mobility plans? It is recommended that every doctoral candidate visits another research environment for several months.

Publication and dissemination

- In which conferences/venues will you present your results/artistic components? In which journals will the research results be published? How will you disseminate the knowledge to wider audience?
- Include a list of already accepted or published papers that will be part of your doctoral thesis

List of references to support your research

- Up to 10 bibliographical references as background for your research proposal

Signatures:

Date

Date

Doctoral student:

Supervising professor:

Clarification of signature:

Clarification of signature: