# KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

## SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

## GUIDELINES ON THE POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH PROPOSAL (STRUCTURE AND CONTENTS)

**AUGUST 2006-2011**

KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY, ARCHEOLOGY & POLITICAL STUDIES

# GENDER DIMENSION OF ETHNIC CONFLICTS IN KENYA: AN EMPIRICAL STUDY WITH REFERENCE TO BUKUSU AND SABAOT COMMUNITIES

GLADYS KHAOMA, BA

A RESEARCH PROPOSAL SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS OF KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

Declaration Page (example):

"This proposal is my original work and has not been presented for a degree in any other university".

Full name of student, showing highest academic qualification

E.g. Signature__________________________ Date_____________________

Name: Gladys Khaoma

C50/8007/2006

Supervisors: This proposal has been submitted for the review with our approval as University supervisors. Then the supervisors beginning with primary supervisor sign below at least two of their names in full, together with their respective departments.

E.g. Signature 1. ___________________________Date___________________

Dr. Julia Mkabili

Department of History, Archeology & Political Studies

2. ___________________________Date___________________

Prof. Menesa Omambia

Department of Sociology

## Abstract

It should consist of precise spectrum of the entire proposal including the Problem, Objectives, and Methods of Data Analysis. It should give an overview of the proposal and should **Not Exceed 500 words.** It should also have the topic (title), and the name of the author (as it appears on the title and declaration pages respectively). **It should occupy a page on its own.**

E.g. In a world of rapid technological change, how do organizations understand and make sense of technology? How do organizational members share their understandings of technology with other organizational members? Existing research into organizational responses to new technologies has described how these responses can be complex, unpredictable, and sometimes conflictual, and how remedies for such conflicts are often framed in terms of the need for improved communication amongst organizational members regarding the ways in which they define technologies. I argue that such approaches simplify and elide both the complex nature of perceiving technology, and also the ways in which such perceptions are explained…………(102 words).

Students from Foreign Languages Department should also provide a synopsis in English giving the overview of the study consisting of background of the study, statement of the problems, objectives, methods of data analysis. This should not exceed three (3) double-space typed pages.

**Abbreviations and Acronyms** (where applicable): All abbreviations and/or acronyms used in the text should be included in the list. They should also be organized in alphabetical order, but must be written out in full the first time they appear in the text. **These should be started on a fresh page.**

## LIST OF TABLES

Each table should be given a number that uniquely identifies it with the relevant chapter and own number.

e.g. Table 1.1: Population of Samburu District by Age Distribution (2005)

This is table number 1 in Chapter 1

Table 1.2: Gender structure of the population of Samburu District (2005)

This is table number 2 in Chapter 1

Note: The listing should start on a fresh page

## LIST OF FIGURES

Similarly, each figure should be uniquely identified by chapter and specific number. **Their listing can start immediately the list of tables ends (i.e. it does not have to start on a fresh page).**

## Definition of terms

The terms defined in this section should not be merely dictionary definitions of words, rather they should be terms and concepts used in a particular manner in the document, and hence a reader of the document would require these definitions and explanations to follow arguments in the document. **This section should start on a fresh page.**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

## 1.0. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. Background of the study

Provide specific Knowledge gaps that are considered the root of the problem. Specifically it should establish the problem leading to the study, and Cast the problem within the larger scholarly literature, discuss deficiencies in the literature about the problem, target an audience, and note the significance of the problem for this audience.

### 1.2. Statement of the Problem

It should be precise and focused. It should be direct and very well thought out such that it does not leave questions in the mind of the reader about the nature and direction of the intended study.

### 1.3. Objectives of the study

The objectives should be clearly stated and should be achievable.

### 1.4. Research Questions/Hypotheses

Should be related to objectives and be testable.

### 1.5. Justification and Significance

A section detailing the benefits and beneficiaries of the findings. Also targeting particular audience, explaining how the study adds to the scholarly research literature in the field, and why the study will improve policy or available information.

### 1.6. Scope and Limitations

Giving the extent to which the study will be carried out, establishing the boundaries, exceptions, reservations and qualifications inherent in the study. It should clearly set the expectations on the study.

## 2.0. LITERATURE REVIEW AND CONCEPTUAL/THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

### 2.1. Review of Related Literature

In this section the student should demonstrate evidence of understanding of current research on the subject under investigation, and show clear gaps in knowledge that will be discussed. The review should be consistent with the requirements of the title (internal consistency) and aspects of the introduction e.g. background of the study. Any other relevant themes should be discussed under this heading.

### 2.2. Conceptual/Theoretical Framework (where applicable).

It should provide conceptual view of the study problem. If a certain theory fits the study, it should be clearly discussed and its applications in the study explained.

## 3.0. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter highlights methodological details appropriate for the study. The following subheadings are suggested, but not all studies will utilize all the sub-headings;

**3.1. Research Design-** State and justify the chosen method(s).

**3.2. Variables/Categories of Analysis-** Explain the independent and dependent variables or show the units and categories of analysis for the study.

**3.3. Site of the Study-** Describe the physical setting where the study will be undertaken and where applicable provide relevant maps and diagrams.

**3.4 Target Population-** describe the population, giving figures.

**3.5 Sampling Techniques and Sample Size**

**3.6 Research Instruments**

**3.7 Pilot Study** (where applicable)

**3.8 Validity & Reliability** (where applicable)

**3.9 Data Collection Procedures-** This process involves setting the boundaries for the study, collecting information through observation, interviews, documents and visual materials, establishing the protocols for recording information, and setting the data parameters that will best answer the research questions.

**3.10 Data Analysis Procedures-** collecting information, sorting it out into clusters, indicate that the process will be based on data reduction and interpretation, reducing data into patterns, categories or schema.

Mention a plan to represent the information in some form of matrices (array, lists, tables) which show relationships between categories of information, display categories by informants, sites, demographic variables, role ordering and many other possibilities.

**3.11 Data Management and Ethical Considerations**

**BIBLIOGRAPHY/REFERENCES**

These should be single-spaced and listed alphabetically. For citation within the text the format of author and year of publication is recommended. Whichever style the Department adopts must be internationally recognized and consistently upheld all throughout the document.

**Examples of APA referencing skills**

1. Books
2. Edited books
3. Journals
4. Newspaper
5. Magazines
6. Newsletters

1. **Books**

Calcutt, R. (1991) Statistic in Research and Development ($2^{nd}$ ed.)

London: Chapman & Hall

2. **Edited Books**

Lethridge, S. & C. Row (Ed.S)(1980) Billingual Education: Teaching English as a second Language. New York: Praeger.

NB: This is for an edited book without different contributors.

3. **Newspapers**

   (a) Lubin, J.S. (1980, 5th December). "On idle: The un-employed shun much mundane work, at least for a while". The wall Street Journal, PP1,25.

   (b) Study finds free care used more. (1998, April). APA Monitor, p.14

   N.B. This is an article without an author. The title of the article takes the place of the author

4. **Magazines**

   Gardener, H. (1981, December). "Do babies need a universal song?"

   Psychology Today, pp70-76

5. **Newsletters**

   Staff (1980, 1st September). "Professionals Face tax rises as IRS targets

   personal-service corporation." Behavior Today, p.5

6. **Internets**

   Cohen L. (2003) A Basic Guide to the internet (online) Available at <http://

**APPENDICES**

To include such items as tentative chapterization, work plan, budget, maps, questionnaires, etc. These should be numbered sequentially with a prefix 'A', e.g.

**A1** would stand for **Appendix 1, A2** for **Appendix 2,** e.t.c.

## LIST OF TABLES/ FIGURES

These should be identified with the chapters on which they are captured.

Numbering should be: Table 1.1, 1.2 or Figure 1.1, 1.2 respectively.

## USE OF TABLES AND FIGURES;

1. No table or figure should occupy more than one page. And each should also fit within the margins of the document.
2. Each table, figure shall have a full caption.
3. They should be numbered in sequence and be cited by a number in the text.
4. Figure numbers and titles should appear above specific figures to identify them appropriately.
5. A table which is over-size may be divided so that a portion appears on two pages, which face each other. If and when this method is used, the entire title and footnotes, if any should appear on the left-hand side of the table.
6. Photographs should be scanned and printed on A4 paper and put on appropriate page(s).

## <u>PRESENTATION FORMAT</u>

1) **Typing**

i) Should be typed on font 12 (Times New Roman) on A4 size paper, double spaced and on one side of the paper.

ii) A 50mm margin should be left on the left side of the paper and a 25mm on the right side of the paper.

iii) Typing should begin 40mm from the top of the paper and should not go beyond 25mm from the bottom of the page.

2) **Pagination:**

i) Preliminaries (Title page to Abbreviation/acronyms) should be numbered consecutively in roman numbers lower cases (e.g. i, ii etc)

ii) The text (from chapter 1 to Appendixes) shall be numbered consecutively using Arabic numbers; the page number shall appear in the centre of the upper margin of the page.

iii) The proposal should be at most 20 pages for Masters and 30 pages for PhD, excluding Appendixes.

iv) The candidate should submit through the chairman of the department, four (4) spiral bound copies of the proposal, duly signed by the student and the supervisors, to the dean, School of Humanities and Social Sciences.

3) **Oral Presentation**

It is advisable for the candidate not to read verbatim from the document, rather he or she should aim at providing a succinct narrative using own notes and reference points as guided by the Chair of the Board. The student is also welcome to use the POWERPOINT format.

**Note:** Use future tense in writing the proposal and this must be changed to past tense when writing thesis.