***Template***

**PhD RESEARCH PROPOSAL**

1. **GENERAL INFORMATION**

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| **Name of Applicant:** |  |
| **Highest Qualification:** |  |
| **Is this a taught degree or a research degree?** |  |

1. **PRELIMINARY RESEARCH PROPOSAL**

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| **Proposed Supervisor(if known)**  *If you have had contacts with a staff member from Tianjin University and he/she agreed on supervising your doctoral studies, please provide the name of the staff member below.* |
| **Supervisor:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **Signature of the supervisor:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |
| **Provisional topic description for the proposed research**  *This is a provisional working topic that can be changed when you develop the research proposal once admitted.* |
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| **Research context and/or background**  *Briefly outline the context or background to which your intended research relates or from which it emerges. Set out what you see as key issues around which your research is framed.* |
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| **Aims and objectives of the research**  *What are you aiming to achieve in your research? This might be a better understanding of some issues or practice, enhancing the quality of outcomes, improving how things are done, etc.* |
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| **Research questions or questions**  *From the context and research aims above, what is the key provisional research question or questions?* |
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| **Research methodology**  *Identify the key method or methods relevant to addressing the research proposal and, specifically, the research questions you have framed above.* |
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| **Previous Masters Research**  *If you have completed research at Master’s level on the same(or a similar) topic, explain how your proposed PhD research will be different from that previously completed. The PhD needs to make a new contribution to knowledge, so tell us how you will develop and extend your Master’s research topic at PhD level.* |
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| **Key readings/bibliography**  *While this is not expected to be comprehensive or extensive at this stage, please provide a few key references to published work that informs your proposed area of research. This may include those sources that were key ones in your Master degree if relevant. Also, include what you consider to be sources of key knowledge or seminal work related to your proposed topic.* |
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