

## **Master's Thesis Proposal Outline**

### **INTRODUCTION (1/2-1 PAGE)**

- What is the general topic area?
- What is the specific scope of your research interest?

### **LITERATURE REVIEW (1-2 PAGES)**

- The literature review should be a well-organized overview of the research most closely related to your work.
- This might likely include the dominant debates, theoretical approaches, methodological research designs that have been used to understand your topic
- Understand that you are trying to demonstrate two things:
  - You are familiar with the research that has been done in this area, essentially what is out there
  - You have found a gap or “lacuna” in the literature...something that has not been well researched (or not been researched utilizing a certain theoretical perspective or methodological design)

### **RESEARCH QUESTION AND CONTRIBUTION (1-2 PAGES)**

- A concise formulation of your specific research question.
  - What is the problem or issue that you are addressing?
  - Why is your research question important?
  - Why past attempts to solve it have been inadequate or nonexistent?
  - How your research will contribute to its solution?

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY (1-2 PAGES)**

- What is your methodology (deductive, historical, empirical)?
- What data (if applicable) do you plan to use and/or collect?