

Thesis proposal

Xavier Serra

Music Technology Group, Universitat Pompeu Fabra

Barcelona, Spain

xavier.serra@upf.edu

Evaluation of a PhD proposal (at UPF)

- Evaluate the student ability to undertake original research at the PhD level (deep knowledge of relevant literature, clear methodology definition, and good communication capabilities)
- Evaluate if the PhD plan can be completed in the PhD period (3 years)

Thesis proposal should include

- Answers to the Why? What? and How?
- Expected contributions and impact of research (including indicators to measure it)
- Open science issues: open access, open software, open data, reproducibility, ...
- Computing/software needs, data needs, supervision /collaboration needs, ethical issues, ...
- Scientific and general dissemination plan: publications, talks, ...

Structure of a thesis proposal (1 of 2)

- ***Title:*** tentative thesis title
- ***Abstract:*** should include the why, what, how, and expected results, all in less than 400 words
- ***Introduction:*** should include motivation, research context, research questions, significance of research, ..
- ***Background and related work:*** state of the art, research methodologies, ...

Structure of a thesis proposal (2 of 2)

- ***Proposed research:*** concrete objectives to be addressed, methods to be used, some initial results,...
- ***Research plan:*** time plan, open science strategy, publications strategy, data, software, dissemination,...
- ***Bibliography***