FINAL PROPOSAL PROFORMA

**BIB Year 3 Research Methods**

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(Please adapt the length of the following 6 sections as needed but respect **maximum** length of **3 pages** excluding appendices and bibliography).

Disciplinary area(s): **Engineering, Cryptography Science, Distributed Computing, Game Theory from a Financial Point of View**

Keywords: **Cryptocurrencies, Decentralized Finance, Online Banking, Blockchain Technology, Digital Transformation**

1. Dissertation title

The proposal needs to have a title. At this stage, it is a working title and can be changed later if a more appropriate wording is found. A good project title is concise, but at the same time exposes clearly the key variables/topic of research and (if required) the context/country/industry under study.

**How are cryptocurrencies affecting the financial industry? A deep dive into innovation and digital transformation.**

1. What is the dissertation about?

This should give a clear indication of the dissertation aims. In a good dissertation proposal, the aims/objectives of the dissertation are stated upfront. Rather than choosing overly ambitious objectives, students are advised to focus on aims/objectives, which are attainable within the scope of the study, while simultaneously contributing to the knowledge gap in that area of work.

**1) Explain Blockchain technology and how it is used in cryptocurrency/defi**

**2) Give brief history of cryptocurrency**

**3) Explain the movement into decentralized finance**

**4) Show how the financial sector has been affected**

**5) Explore the future uses of cryptocurrencies and decentralized finance**

1. What are the research questions?

The dissertation question(s) should be explicit. A research question may lead to a statement of three or four specific objectives, which are to be achieved in order to answer the dissertation question. These should be investigative in nature and therefore problem based. Students need to analyze rather than merely describe.

**What is Blockchain and how did it lead to the creation of decentralized finance?**

**How has the financial sector been affected by the creation of cryptocurrencies?**

**How will decentralized finance affect the future of our banking systems?**

1. Why is the dissertation important?

The rationale for the dissertation should include a statement as to why the dissertation should be undertaken. This should include business and academic reasons, based on examples and references.

**Business reasons: Great demand in the market; new technology integrations; Improved data security; Economic, Social & Political stake; International Reach; Emerging Investment Industry**

**Academic reasons: Excellent Career Opportunities (for example in Cybersecurity); Future of our Society in which we are going to live in Banking? (Health? Metaverse? Supply Chain?)**

1. What is the academic literature basis of the dissertation?

Students need to choose a topic for which there is sufficient literature available. In the proposal, students should show how their first reading of the literature has helped them to define their research question. The key pieces of work in the area under investigation should be briefly **discussed in an orderly and logical manner**.

**The research questions were formulated based on four main academic journals:**

* **Creed, R. R., & Northard, A. (2021). The Role of Blockchain Technology in Cryptocurrencies**
* **Miciuła, I., & Kazojć, K. (2019). The Global Development of Cryptocurrencies.**
* **OJOG, S. (2021). The Emerging World of Decentralized Finance.**
* **Rajnak, V., & Puschmann, T. (2021). The impact of blockchain on business models in banking.**

**In addition to these, other academic journals will be used to support our hypothesis such as:**

* **Pestunov, A. I. (2021). Cryptocurrencies and Blockchain: Potential Applications in Government and Business.**
* **Athanassiou, P. L. (2021). Shunning Banks or Depending on Them? Crypto Markets and the Rise of Crypto-Friendly Banking.**

1. What are the proposed directions?

This section must detail the aims and objectives of the investigation are to be achieved. This means not only a description of the first gaps of the literature, but also a presentation of preliminary hypotheses or even a theoretical framework if needed (if theory testing is intended) or broad **revised** research questions (if exploratory research is intended).

**Analyze and explain the following: Blockchain, DeFi, Regulation, Taxonomy, Security, Investment Industry, Limitations**

**Hypothesis: Cryptocurrency is at the verge of revolutionizing the traditional financial industry with its disruptive underlying technology, Blockchain.**

1. Bibliography (unlimited size, not counted in the 3 pages)

A full bibliography of all items referred to in the proposal should be provided. It should be obvious to the reader of the proposal where students have sourced the referenced material that has been used in the text of their proposal. This bibliography must be presented in a consistent manner and following a recognized convention (APA or Harvard Anglia).

1. Exhibit: Thematic Analysis Grid (unlimited size, not counted in the 3 pages)

As the Dissertation will only consist in a literature review, a first attempt of that should be presented here in appendix

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1. APPENDIX: THEMATIC ANALYSIS GRID

Table

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***Section below to be filled in by the supervisor***

Supervisor’s General Comments:

Supervisor’s Comments for Improvements:

Grade for Dissertation Proposal: /20

Professor’s Signature: