

Q: Would you prefer the layout of the research proposal to be running text or subheadings?

A: Subheadings are preferable as they make it easier to read

Q: My research area is the political history of the Middle East – is this counted as Social Sciences?

A: The term 'Social Sciences' is broadly interpreted. Each proposal is assessed individually. It is recommended that you send your proposal to relevant members of academic staff within the School to seek feedback as to the fit of your research within the School priorities.

Q: My PhD is from a country that does not use the viva system for awards – I have had the award of my PhD confirmed, but have not yet graduated – am I eligible to apply?

A: If your PhD has been awarded without corrections by the application deadline date you are eligible to apply.

Q: How important is a strong existing track record of publications?

A: Both the research proposal and publication record are important – your publication record reinforces the evidence of your proposal to conduct outstanding research. What is considered to be a good track record of publications depends on the discipline area.

Q: Should my research proposal include costings for fieldwork?

A: No, this is not necessary.

Q: Is there an interim reporting process within the term of the fellowship?

A: It is normal practice for you to check progress informally on a regular basis with your mentor in the School, but a formal report is only required at the end of the fellowship.

Q: Are cross-Faculty connections encouraged within interdisciplinary research?

A: Yes, interdisciplinary research can include connections with other Faculties.

Q: Would an ESRC seminar series application be regarded favourably as part of the impact plan?

A: Plans to apply for other awards are acceptable as long as you have time for the work and it is related to the primary research project.

Q: Would you consider less convention outputs than papers and monographs?

A: Yes, if they were appropriate, less convention outputs would not disadvantage the proposal.

Q: Do references count towards the word limit of the research proposal?

A: No, the word limit for the research proposal is 2,000 words, excluding references.

Q: There has been an emphasis in the presentations on methodology, which is more difficult for someone in my research area, which is Law. What would you advise?

A: Make sure you are able to articulate clearly how you are going to carry out your research.