# Faculty of Arts Research Statement Template

To apply for a research degree programme within the Faculty of Arts, you will need to submit a research statement. You should use the following template as guidance when completing your research statement.

The primary requirement for the research statement is to define and situate your research within an academic area of study and disciplinary context. You should remember that the main readers of postgraduate research are people in the academic community. The research statement should be approximately 1000 words for the PhD and 500 words for the MPhil.

In your research statement you will need to identify:

## 1. Research Questions

You should clearly describe the research questions that you intend to address.

I. What issues will you explore in your research project?

## 2. Research Context

I. You should describe the research context for your project:

II. Why is it important that these questions or issues are explored?
III. What other research is being or has been conducted in this area?
IV. What contribution will your project make to its field? How will it enhance knowledge and understanding, or develop creativity, in your chosen area of study?
V. Beyond their specific field, to which areas will your research outcomes be of interest?

## 3. Research Methods

I. You should describe the methods you will use to pursue the key questions of your work.

II. What approach will you take to address the questions that you have set or to explore the matters you intend to investigate?
III. Why have you chosen this approach? How does it effectively answer the research questions you have set?
IV. How will you execute this methodological approach?

## 4. Project management

I. What is the timetable for the project? Which parts of the project do you expect to do when, in the time allowed for a PhD or MPhil?

## 5. Bibliography

I. Candidates should include an indicative bibliography of the sources they may intend to use in their research. This will not count towards the word count of the research statement.