

Doctoral School Geography and Regional Science

## **Abstract** (for proposed doctoral research project as part of enrollment)

The abstract of your doctoral research proposal is part of your application to the doctoral programme at the Faculty of Environmental and Regional Sciences and Education (i.e., URBI Faculty). It should convince the admission committee that your doctoral project will be a relevant research contribution in the field of the doctoral school and you are capable of independently planning and conducting high-quality research.

The abstract should address the following topics and questions (use the questions and word counts below as a guide):

**Research question and the overall aim of the doctoral project:** *Which research question do you want to address and solve through your research? Why is it relevant? What is already known from the related literature? What is the research gap you want to fill?* [about 400-500 words]

**Research Design and Methods:** *Which research methodology will guide you through your research? How do you intend to answer your research question(s)? Which scientific theories or concepts are of interest and relevant to investigate your research problem; and which will you employ in your research? Which set of research methods will you apply, based on which theoretical approaches? How do you want to gather data (modelling, experiments, surveys, etc.)? How do you plan to analyze the data?* [about 400-500 words]

**Context to the Doctoral School:** *How is your research project related to the subject of the selected doctoral school? Does your research build on existing findings or ongoing research activities at the doctoral school?* [about 100 words]

It is recommended to use the following structure of the abstract:

### **Title page**

- Working title of your research project
  - Your name and contact details
  - Doctoral school, curriculum, and supervisors
1. Research question and overall aim of the doctoral project
  2. Research objective(s) and questions
  3. Research design and methods
  4. Context to the Doctoral School

*An extended and updated version of your research proposal, usually 5 to 10 pages in length, must be submitted as "Research exposé" to the URBI Dean's Office within the first year of your doctoral studies.*