**Requirements and recommendations**

**for PhD project descriptions**

1. The project description to be submitted for admission to the PhD study programme is an original scholarly text that should demonstrate the candidates’s scholarly competence, creative thinking, methodological and theoretical training, practical experience and motivation. Wherever this applies, the applicant’s earlier work in the given domain should also be mentioned.
2. The project should contain a formulation of the research problem the applicant intends to work on and should discuss its topicality, characterise the current state of research, define the research objectives and outline the directions and methods of the intended research.
3. The project description should meet the standards of academic writing as well academic standards in general (scholarly integrity, originality, coherent and logically structured exposition, exhaustive references, adequate academic style).
4. The project description should comprise:

* **An introduction** discussing the topicality of the research object, the innovative character of the research and the reason why it should be taken up. It should also formulate the research problem, the way in which the author proposes to deal with it, and the working hypothesis to the extent that it can be formulated at the given stage.
* **Overview of the literature**. This section gives an overview of the research carried out in Lithuania and abroad, and indicates what the proposed research could add to it.
* **Methodology**. This section mentions the methods the applicant proposes to use and details the successive stages of the research, the way in which the data will be analysed, and the expected reliability of the data obtained.
* **Bibliography**. This section contains the sources and references used in drawing up the research project.

1. The length of the project description (references not included) should be about 5000 characters (with spaces).
2. Page layout: line spacing 1.5, font size 12, Times New Roman. Margins: left 3cm, right 1.5cm, top and bottom 2cm.

**Project description assessment criteria**

In assessing the project description the following aspects will be taken into account:

1. Adequate formulation and motivation of the research problem and research objectives.
2. Topicality of the research problem in the current context of linguistic or literary studies.
3. The candidate’s grasp of the theoretical implications of the research problem, familiarity with previous research in Lithuania and abroad, critical approach to previous research.
4. Suitability of the proposed empirical data to the research topic, their authenticity and adequacy.
5. Adequacy of the selected methodology with a view to achieving the proposed research objectives.
6. Conformity of language, style, punctuation etc. to academic standards.

**The assessment of the project description accounts for 20% of the general assessment**.

**Requirements and recommendations for the**

**presentation of the research project (admission committee interview)**

1. Formulate, as clearly and precisely as possible, your research problem, research objectives, empirical base and methods, as well as the relevance of the research problem in the current context of linguistic/literary studies.
2. Give a theoretically informed assessment of the relationsip of your proposed research to what has already been done in the given domain, together with a critical appraisal of previous research.
3. Use academically adequate language, take care of a logical and coherent exposition.
4. Be prepared to provide well-argued answers to the admission committee’s questions.

**Assessment criteria for the**

**presentation of the research project (admission committee interview)**

1. Theoretically informed presentation of the research problem, objectives, empirical data and methodology.
2. Convincing argumentation for the topicality of the research in the current context of linguistic or literary studies.
3. Adequate presentation of the current state of research in Lithuania and abroad.
4. Ability to provide well-argued answers the admission committee’s questions.
5. Academically adequate language and style.

**The assessment of the presentation (interview) accounts for 80% of the general assessment**.