



## EDAM - Instructions for writing your 'Research Plan'

**10-15 pages including figures and bibliography** (recommended font size: 11, line spacing: 1.5).

The research plan has to be submitted with the *1<sup>st</sup> year annual report* as cover, followed by the five sections described below: (you may use a template of your choice)

1. **Summary** (max. 15 lines): Should briefly state the research question you have addressed, the principal results you have obtained and finally state the aims of your future research.
2. **Introduction** (2-3 pages): referring to the main scientific publications in the field, describe knowledge gained so far in the research domain, specify gaps that remain to be filled, and finally state which questions you have tried to address in your first year.
3. **Results and Discussion** (4-7 pages): report the major results from your experimental work and discuss them in the context of the literature.
4. **Future research plan** (2-4 pages): On the basis of the information given under 2) and 3), indicate the objectives you envisage to meet during the remaining three years of PhD work. Subdivide this part into objective 1, 2, 3 etc. For each objective state what experimental approaches you plan to use, which outcome may be expected and what may be the follow-up experiments. Indicate if some of the techniques still need to be established in the laboratory.
5. **Schedule for the future research plan** (ca. 1/2 page): as far as it is possible specify the time schedule (2<sup>nd</sup> year, 3<sup>rd</sup> year, 4<sup>th</sup> year) of the different project phases proposed for the objectives listed in 4).

### IMPORTANT

- *The Research Plan must be submitted to all members of the thesis committee **at least 10 calendar days** before the candidacy exam either as a PDF file or in printed form.*

- *A PDF copy needs to be sent **by email** to the local PhD program administrator ([edam@epfl.ch](mailto:edam@epfl.ch)) **at least 10 calendar days** before the candidacy exam.*