**Title**

**(brief, interesting, clear)**

**Context and Literature**

You must explain the broad context of your research. You also have to outline the published scholarship on your topic in order to make a claim for your own contribution to knowledge. The most successful approach to this section is the “funnel”: open with an engaging statement or question related to your research’s broad context and then drill down (using citations) to your specific area and end on a transition that leads obviously and elegantly to:

**Research Question and Objectives**

Phrase your thesis’ main objective as a question, and *italicize this question* in your PoS so readers can see it right away (One example: *Therefore, I ask \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?*) Research questions can be comprised of sets of more than one, but should not comprise any more than 2-3. After you state the question(s), articulate the steps you will take to formulate/present an answer to the question(s). Number these “objectives” like this:

01)

02)

03)

**Theoretical and Methodological Approach**

Explain, with citations, the theoretical framework for your research and justify the appropriateness of that framework for your thesis project. Then, outline the research strategies and key activities for your program of research. Procedures for data collection and analysis, if relevant, need to be outlined and matched to objectives in the previous section. Mentions of well-established methods should come with citations to others who use them. If data collection is not part of your methodology, or if you are not used to writing about “methodology,” then you should go to your theoretical models and outline the analytical methods that are at their core and adopt them for your research.

**Contribution to Knowledge**

How is your research original and/or important to undertake? How is it different from those sources you cited in Context? Discuss but don’t over-state originality. In some cases, do not be afraid to highlight how your research will “build on” the key work of others in crucial ways. Depending on the project, discuss either why a gap is important to fill or how your work will significantly contribute to knowledge within specialized research areas. Who will be most interested in your work? Why should the general public care about your research results? Describe the potential influence and impact of your project within and beyond the humanities and social sciences research communities.

**Award Tenure**

Make this section as brief as possible (don’t waste space here). Simply state your current level of graduate study or the degree program you will be pursuing, the name of your supervisor, and their specialization relevant to your thesis. If you are in a PhD program, then state what you will accomplish during the tenure of this SSHRC award.

**SSHRC Program of Study: Instructions**

DO NOT go over 2 pages

* single-sided, on 8 ½" x 11" (21.5 cm x 28 cm), white paper;
* single-spaced, with no more than six lines of type per inch (2.54 cm);
* use 12 pt Times New Roman font;
* all margins set at a minimum of ¾" (1.87 cm);
* your name MUST appear within the set margins at the top right corner of **every** page; and
* your pages MUST be numbered consecutively following the last page of your application printout (start at 10)