**PhD proposal template for Intelligent Instruments**

**PROJECT PROPOSAL (max 5 pages or 2,500 words)**

*Remove the italicised text and put relevant text in its stead.*

**Name:**

**Email:**

**Project Title**

*Provide a working title for your project. This may change during the course of your research.*

1. **Abstract**

*Short description of the planned research (max. 250 words). This should summarise the project succinctly: the background context, what the key research question is, how it will be answered, and why the project matters.*

1. **Objectives and research questions**

*List the main objectives of the planned research and the research questions it seeks to answer. This part should contain a description of the innovative aspects of the research and how it will be an original contribution to knowledge in the field and potentially impact society more generally. Explain how your work relates to the Intelligent Instruments programme.*

1. **State of the art and background**

*Describe the state of knowledge in the research field as relevant to the current research. What research has already been done and what is already known? Who are the key people and institutions in the field? This section should demonstrate a critical engagement with theories and secondary literature as well as other artefacts that might be relevant to your project.*

1. **Research Methodology**

*Explain which methods you will apply to answer your research questions. How will these methods result in concrete outcomes? Are there any ethical issues that need to be considered? You might want to provide links to online examples of your earlier work here. If relevant this part should also describe access to facilities, materials or data that you need.*

1. **Indicative Timeline**

*In this section you describe your work plan over the three years. Of course, this will be subject to change in collaboration with lab members, other projects and input from your supervisors.*

1. **Bibliography**

*List of main sources in the application. The content of the bibliography is outside the page or word count.*

There are plenty of online sources on “How to write a successful PhD proposal” and there are various books on the topic, such as “How to write a Watertight Thesis”. We recommend that you seek information from these helpful sources in developing your project proposal.

We look forward to receive your application  
Good luck  
The Intelligent Instruments team.