An example template of dissertation/independent study proposal form linked to Chapter 3 of the text by Opie and Brown (2019).

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| Dissertation/Independent Study Proposal FormResearch Ethics Clearance Form | |
| **Student name** |  |
|  |  |
| **Student enrolment number** |  |
| **Programme** |  |
| **Module code and name** |  |
| **Supervisor if known** |  |
| **Proposed title of research** |  |
| **Your proposed research**  *This section should address the following questions and give sufficient detail:*   * *What have you chosen to research?* * *Why did you choose to research this topic (your rationale)?* * *Please give a brief description of your proposed project and discuss your aims.* | |
| **What are your proposed research question(s)?**   * *Number your questions for ease of reference.* | |
| **Discuss some of the key literature that you are intending to use.**   * *Remember to use referencing conventions when presenting literature.* | |
| **Methodology**   * *What research methods/procedures do you intend to use and why?* * *How do your methods/procedures address your research questions?* * *Do you foresee any problems/issues with your data collection?* * *Discuss how you are intending to choose your participants.* * *Where is the research going to take place?* | |
| **Ethical considerations**  *Use the following headings to describe how you intend to deal with ethical issues in relation to your research. You should consult the relevant version of the BERA guidelines and any university guidelines to help you to do this:*   * *Seek informed consent from participants* * *Inform participants of their right to withdraw* * *Maintain confidentiality including how you propose to store data* * *Protect participants from harm*   *Identify any specific ethical issues relating to this research, for example if your research is with vulnerable groups like young children, or pupils who have SEND (special educational needs/disability). Acknowledge how you propose to address the above bullet points if your research or part of your research is going to take place online.* | |
| **Risk assessment**   * *Refer to any university guidance/ forms for risk assessment during your research* * *Ensure you have abided by any risk assessment procedures for the place where your research is going to take place including any health and safety inductions.* * *Note that some schools will not allow you to do research without DBS clearance (disclosure and barring service).* | |

Opie, C. and Brown, D. (eds) (2019) *Getting Started in Your Educational Research: A Student’s Guide to Design, Data Production and Analysis*. London: Sage.