REVISION OF

RESEARCH PROPOSAL

Effectiveness of the Secondary-Level Curriculum in Bangladesh

A practical academic guide to reviewing, correcting, and strengthening a proposal

Student name	_____
Programme / Department	_____
Institution	_____
Supervisor	_____
Revision date	_____

1. Meaning and Purpose of Proposal Revision

Revision of a research proposal is the process of reviewing and improving the proposed study before it is approved or carried out. It may involve clarifying the research problem, aligning objectives with research questions, strengthening the literature review, improving the methodology, checking feasibility, and correcting language, structure, and references.

Revision should preserve the central purpose of the study while making the proposal clearer, more coherent, realistic, ethical, and academically defensible.

2. Main Areas to Review

- Title: Make it concise, specific, and consistent with the actual scope of the study.
- Introduction and background: Explain the context and lead logically to the research problem.
- Statement of the problem: Identify the specific issue or evidence gap the study will address.
- Objectives: Use clear action verbs and ensure each objective is achievable and assessable.
- Research questions: Make each question directly correspond to one or more objectives.
- Significance: Explain who may benefit from the findings and how.
- Literature review: Include relevant, credible, and sufficiently recent sources; identify the gap rather than merely listing studies.
- Methodology: Specify the design, setting, population, sample, sampling technique, instruments, procedures, and analysis plan.
- Ethics: Address informed consent, voluntary participation, confidentiality, data protection, and any required institutional permission.
- Limitations and delimitations: State realistic constraints and the boundaries of the study.
- Timeline and budget: Ensure dates, activities, and costs are feasible and internally consistent.
- References and presentation: Use one required citation style consistently and proofread the full document.

3. Revision of the Current Proposal: Curriculum Effectiveness

The sample proposal focuses on the effectiveness of Bangladesh’s secondary-level curriculum. Its proposed study area is selected schools in the Dhaka, Chattogram, and Rangpur divisions, with students in Grades 9–10, teachers, and curriculum specialists as participants. It proposes a descriptive mixed-methods design.

4. Specific Revisions Recommended for This Proposal

- Clarify the curriculum version and implementation period being evaluated, so readers know exactly which curriculum the study concerns.
- Define “effectiveness” in observable terms, such as students’ perceived understanding, opportunities to develop skills, classroom practices, and alignment between intended and implemented curriculum.
- Explain why the three divisions and six schools are selected, and describe how schools and participants will be chosen.
- Justify the proposed sample of 150 students, 12 teachers, and 3 specialists in relation to the study objectives and available resources.
- State whether student questionnaires, teacher interviews, specialist interviews, and document analysis will be piloted before the main data collection.
- Add operational details: who will administer instruments, how long collection will take, how responses will be recorded, and how data will be securely stored.

- Describe the quantitative analysis more precisely (for example, frequencies, percentages, and means when appropriate) and explain the steps for coding and developing qualitative themes.
- Explain how findings from questionnaires, interviews, and document analysis will be compared or integrated.
- Include permissions from schools and relevant authorities, informed consent, and appropriate assent/guardian consent procedures for participants under 18.
- Update the original January–June 2025 timeline before submission because those dates have passed.
- Resolve the budget discrepancy in the source draft: the itemised costs total BDT 9,000, while the narrative mentions an expected allocation of BDT 10,000. State whether BDT 1,000 is a reserve or correct the total.
- Verify all bibliographic details, publication years, titles, editions, and institutional document names against the sources actually consulted.

5. Check Alignment Across the Proposal

A strong proposal shows a clear connection between the problem, objectives, questions, data sources, and analysis. Use the table below as a final alignment check.

Objective	Possible evidence	Analysis / output
Assess curriculum support for knowledge, skills, and attitudes	Student questionnaire; curriculum documents	Descriptive statistics; document review
Explore teachers' implementation experiences	Semi-structured teacher interviews	Thematic analysis
Identify gaps between intended and implemented curriculum	Policy/curriculum documents; teacher interviews	Compare stated expectations with reported practice
Explore students' perceived relevance and learning experience	Student questionnaire, with optional follow-up discussion if approved	Descriptive summaries and theme comparison where data support it

6. Revision Process: Step by Step

- Read the supervisor's comments and institutional guidelines carefully.
- Group feedback by section and mark each issue as content, method, ethics, formatting, or language.
- Revise the research problem first; then check objectives and research questions.
- Revise the literature review and methodology so they support the questions being asked.
- Check feasibility, participant protection, timeline, and budget.
- Edit citations and references, then proofread the complete proposal.
- Use a response-to-reviewers table to record each comment, the change made, and the page or section where it appears.
- Save a clean final copy and, if requested, a tracked-changes copy.

7. Revision Tracking Table

Reviewer comment	Action taken	Section / page
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

8. Final Submission Checklist

- The title matches the study's scope and terminology.
- The problem, objectives, and research questions are aligned.
- The literature review establishes a clear rationale and research gap.
- The sample, instruments, procedures, and analysis plan are sufficiently detailed.
- Ethical safeguards and required permissions are described.
- The timeline uses realistic future dates.
- The budget figures add up and any reserve is explained.
- Every in-text citation appears in the reference list and vice versa.
- Formatting follows the institution's instructions.
- Supervisor comments have been addressed or explained.

9. Conclusion

Proposal revision is not merely proofreading; it is a systematic process of improving the logic, evidence, feasibility, and presentation of a planned study. For the curriculum-effectiveness proposal, the highest-priority tasks are to define effectiveness clearly, strengthen the sampling and data-analysis details, describe ethical procedures, update the timeline, and reconcile the budget.

Important: This document is a revision guide based on the sample proposal, not a claim that a supervisor has approved the changes. Confirm the final design and requirements with your supervisor or department.