

**Faculty of Management and Finance
University of Colombo, Sri Lanka**

Doctoral Colloquium

IRCMF 2026

Submission Guidelines

You are expected to submit **one document** with a 250-word abstract followed by a 2000-word extended abstract from your PhD/DBA, MPhil, or MBA¹ study. Details of the submission are given below.

Abstract

- Word limit – 250 words maximum
- File type – MS Word
- Use the template provided

Extended Abstract

- Word limit – 2000 words maximum (excluding references and annexures)
- Title page – Include the title of your study
- Use the template provided

General Formatting

- **Font style and size** – Times New Roman, 12-pitch font
- **Spacing** – 1.5 spaced
- **Alignment** – Justified
- **Margins** – 1-inch (2.5 cm) margin all around
- **File type** – MS Word
- **Referencing style** – American Psychological Association (APA) 7th ed.

Other Submission Information

- Deadline for submission of both Abstract and the Extended Abstract– **21st September 2026**
- Make your submission for the Doctoral Colloquium via online link provided on the website

For further queries/ information, please contact the secretary of Doctoral Colloquium 2026:

Ms. Ishara Gamage (+94 77 943 0082)
Mr. Venuka Batagoda (+94 77 460 4301)

¹ We encourage MBA thesis students of the Faculty of Management and Finance, University of Colombo to apply for this colloquium.



Extended Abstract Template

[Title of the Submission]

[Author Name and Affiliation]

Abstract

Purpose: *[explain “why” you are doing this research]*

Research Design/ Methodology/ Methods: *[Explain “how” you did/ planning to do this research]*

Findings: *[Explain what you found via your study/ from your research – the main findings of your research] (if relevant to the stage of your research)*

Research Implications: *[explain how your research findings are/would be important for theory, practice, and policy]*

Originality/ value: *[explain what is new in your research and in what ways the research contributes to the discipline]*

Keywords: *[include up to 5 - 7 appropriate and short keywords that capture the principal topics of the extended abstract]*

Content of the extended abstract will depend on the stage of your candidature of the doctoral programme. You may/ may not have content ready for all the sections of the template given below. Therefore, you may submit your work as appropriate based on the progress of your research work to date.

1. Background of the study
2. Research gap
3. Research questions/objectives
4. A brief review of literature and theory
5. Methodology (if applicable to the stage of your study)
6. Preliminary findings (if applicable)
7. Discussions (if applicable)
8. Contributions and implications of your study (if applicable)
9. Conclusion
10. References

Please note that full research proposals will not be accepted. The extended abstract must be a write up of a maximum of 2000 words (excluding references) adhering to this template.