

Guidelines for the Seminar Paper

What you need to consider when writing the seminar paper and how to approach and organise it:

Scientific Topic

(My interest concerns the topic of ... / lies in the field(s))

Research Question(s)

(What is my research intention? What do I want to find out / find out more about? Why I am doing this research?)

Research methods / Sources

(How do I want to find out sth./ find out more about sth.?)

Theoretical Concepts

(What theoretical concepts do I want to deploy in my paper? / What theoretical concepts help and support my research interest and argumentation?)

State of Current Research

(What research has already been done on this topic? & What will my (new) contribution to it be?)

Approach

(How do I want to do the research and how do I want to argue about it?)

Structure

(How do I want to organise my thoughts, my work and my research? Rough outline of my research.)

Abstract

(About 250/300 words that explain what the paper is about and what is its intention.)

Introduction

(Overview of the paper. What is the relevance of the topic? What is/are the research question(s)? How is the research done? How is the argumentation constructed/structured? What is the outcome of the research (not the conclusion!!!)?)

(write it as draft first and then redraft it to the final version when you have finished writing the paper)

Main Body

(What is the main idea of the paper? How did I do the research /organise my research? Does your line of thought follow a coherent argumentation? How are the subchapters organised in this regard?)

Conclusion

(What is the overall impression of the topic? How can the paper be summarised in a new/reformulated way? What further questions can be raised / What further research can follow on the chosen topic?)

Titles

(informative, catchy and concise)

Illustrations

(Use examples which support your arguments and theoretical concepts)

Layout and Design, Cover Page, Table of Contents, Bibliography, Citation and other formalities

Please check the UE Guidelines for Writing Papers

Colloquium presentations:

Your colloquium presentation should address the following:

Scientific Topic

(My interest concerns the topic of ... / lies in the field(s))

Research Question(s)

(What is my research intention? What do I want to find out / find out more about?
Why I am doing this research?)

Research methods / Sources

(How do I want to find out sth./ find out more about sth.? What sources will I use?)

Theoretical Concepts

(What theoretical concepts do I want to deploy in my paper? / What theoretical
concepts help and support my research interest and argumentation?)

State of Current Research

(What research has already been done on this topic? & What will my (new)
contribution to it be?)

Approach

(How do I want to do the research and how do I want to argue about it?)

Structure

(How do I want to organise my thoughts, my work and my research? Rough outline
of my research.)

Abstract (draft version)

(About 300 words that explain what the paper is about and what is its intention.)

Tip 1: Try the formula

(State the topic)

I am trying to learn about/ working on / studying / researching...

(Add an indirect question)

because I want to find out who/what/when/where/whether/why/how...

(So what?)

in order to help my reader understand ...

Tip 2:

Research means to find out something that is unknown!

When doing research ask a lot of questions: HOW and WHY, also WHAT IF, rather than WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE!

Your colloquium presentation should also include:

Any initial thoughts you have regarding your paper

Any questions you have, would like to talk about and would like to get a feedback on from your colleagues and me.

Much sucess !!!