

How to turn your thesis into an accessible book

Sebastian Nordhoff Center for the Study of Language and Society Berne, 2019-05-29







Introduction

 $\mathsf{Thesis} \to \mathsf{book}$

Legal aspects



Sebastian Nordhoff

- > PhD 2009 A grammar of Upcountry Sri Lanka Malay
- 3 edited volumes, about 30 research articles
- 2009-2012 Glottolog.org at the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology
-) advocate for Open Source, Open Access, Open Data, Open Everything
- > since 2014 coordinator for Language Science Press
- \rangle involved in the publication of 150+ books since 2014
 - maybe 30 of them based on theses





Language Science Press

- scholar-owned, community-based publisher
- Open Access
-) free to read
-) free to publish
- > 29 series
-) 30 books a year (monographs and edited volumes)
-) Open-Access-Preis of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Sprachwissenschaft 2018





Language Science Press



Noun phrase morphown tes in

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Nordhoff



Thesis \rightarrow book

- > Select series
- Contact series editors
-) Discuss how the book would fit into the series
- > De-dissertationize
 - > shorten "history of research".
 -) footnotes are not a sign of erudition. Drop/shorten as much as you can.
-) wait for reviews
- > revision, copyediting, typesetting.





-) "Copyright" in the Anglo-Saxon countries
-) "Urheberrecht" in continental Europe
- These are different!
- Once you create something, you can decide who can use it and how
- Choose wisely and be explicit!





-) Usage rights can be differentiated as follows
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 - copyright transfer agreement (Anglo-Saxon culture)
 - total buy-out



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Availability of Nordhoff (ed.) (2012)



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