

SuCo2 Research Group

GUIDELINES

SHORT EXPOSE / RESEARCH PROPOSAL

Preliminary remarks: These guidelines do not replace legal information. For legal information, please refer to the respective examination regulations and contact the examination office or student service. Please be aware that not every SuCo2 Group member is formally entitled to serve as a supervisor or be on your committee.

Planning to write a thesis or term paper with SuCo2?

As a basis for a productive discussion of your ideas, we ask you to write a short exposé and bring it to the consultation appointment. You should be able to write this exposé within 15-20 minutes. The exposé should not exceed 2-3 pages. We propose to focus on the main content/topic-related and organizational issues presented on the next page.

Furthermore, we ask you to reflect on open questions and aspects you may be interested in, so that we can help you to define your project. The short exposé will almost organically develop into a full exposé or proposal in the course of meeting that you can then use to register your thesis.

Please note: The short exposé does not need to be perfect! Please openly identify problems and open questions that you may have and discuss them with us. Please also note the decision recommendation matrix that we have developed as a tool to prepare meetings about open questions (available at www.suco2.com → studying with SuCo2).

Helpful literature

Bui, Y. N. (2009). *How to write a master's thesis*. Los Angeles, Calif. [u.a.]: Sage.

Lipson, C. (2005). *How to write a BA thesis: A practical guide from your first ideas to your finished paper*. Chicago, Ill. [u.a.]: Univ. of Chicago Press.

McClain, M., & Roth, J. D. v. (1999). *Schaum's quick guide to writing great essays*. New York London: McGraw-Hill.

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Suggestion of key questions to structure the short exposé

Guiding questions regarding content	
What is the general field of my interest?	<i>Topic</i>
What exactly do I want to know? (Clear, specific, formulated as a question)	<i>Questioning</i>
What is important about it?	<i>Relevance (especially regarding sustainability)</i>
What exactly do I want to research?	<i>Object of investigation</i>
Is the relevant data already obtainable (where?) or do I have to collect it by myself? What kind of data is it (Numbers, text, pictures ...?) How do I want to collect and analyze my data in order to answer my research question?	<i>Methodical procedure for data collection and analysis</i>
What could be the results of my work? (do not anticipate concrete results, but examine the possible <i>type</i> of answers to the research question)	<i>Possible results</i>
What do I already know about the state of the scientific discussion on my topic and my research question? How and where do I search for literature? What are important publications I refer to? (Including a bibliography if necessary)	<i>Literature review</i>
How do I want to structure my thesis? What is the volume of the individual parts?	<i>Structure + Volume</i>
Guiding questions regarding organization	
What do I need for support / tools? (For example, own previous experience / methodical competencies, guiding literature, mentoring / counseling)	<i>Needs / Resources</i>
When will I have completed the thesis / defense? What are the intermediate steps / milestones? Where do I schedule buffer and correction time?	<i>Schedule</i>
Where does my thesis lead to? (e.g. professional connection, further study, promotion ...)	<i>Personal perspective</i>

For further information, please consult our website at: www.suco2.com