Efficient Academic Writing for Empirical Research

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Course instructors

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Location

Campus Munich for one session, all other sessions are online

Application and registration procedure

Target audience
Prerequisites of the course:
- Doctoral candidates who are currently on Doctoral Candidacy List
- Doctoral candidates who have (preliminary) empirical results
- Doctoral candidates who want to write a paper for journal or conference submission
- Own laptop to bring to every session

Application/Registration process
Please apply until **31st January 2024 to Theresa Treffers**, theresa.treffers@tum.de, via email containing:
- Your CV with contact information and chair of your dissertation
- Dissertation topic (1 sentence)
- Problem statement (3 sentences)
- Data description (3 sentences)
- Target journal (possibly call for papers) and/or conference with deadline

Course objectives
Knowledge Objectives
- Students will have a good understanding of academic writing and the structure of the different chapters in a scientific paper.
- Students will know efficient publication strategies

Skills Objectives
- Students will have improved their skills in research as well as in writing their dissertations or papers.
- Students will have a solid draft of one of their dissertation paper.
- Students will have utilized the processes of revision by positive, constructive peer reviews of the documents by fellow students on their writing and by revising their documents.

Learning Objectives
- Students will have learned about how to start and finish writing a scientific paper in the context of writing a Ph.D. thesis.
- Students will have identified standard elements of research papers and used this knowledge to work on their dissertations or papers.

Preliminary schedule
(The details of this schedule may be subject to change)

Date	Time	Session	Content	Suggested outcome
12.03.24	9 am to 1 pm	Kick-off (virtual)	Introduction to the course and writing	
08.04.24	*6 pm Voluntary get-together*	*(tbd in Munich)*	*Informal get-together*	
09.04.24	9 am to 6 pm	Presentation session (in person in Munich)	Student presentations of their research	Clear structure for writing for your own paper
			Suggested content:	*Suggested outcome:*
16.04.24	10 am to 12 pm	Session 1 (virtual)	Write method	Method section
23.04.24	10 am to 12 pm	Session 2 (virtual)	Write results	Results section
30.04.24	10 am to 12 pm	Session 3 (virtual)	Write abstract and introduction	Abstract and introduction
07.05.24	10 am to 12 pm	Session 4 (virtual)	Write theory	Theory section
14.05.24	10 am to 12 pm	Session 5 (virtual)	Write hypothesis	Hypothesis development section
04.06.24	10 am to 12 pm	Session 6 (virtual)	Write discussion	Discussion
11.06.24	10 am to 12 pm	Session 7 (virtual)	Revise method and results	Final method and results section
18.06.24	10 am to 12 pm	Session 8 (virtual)	Revise abstract and introduction	Final abstract and introduction
25.06.24	10 am to 12 pm	Session 9 (virtual)	Revise theory and hypothesis	Final theory and hypothesis
02.07.24	10 am to 12 pm	Session 10 (virtual)	Revise discussion	Final discussion
				Final paper

Core readings

Barley, S. R. (2006). When I write my masterpiece: Thoughts on what makes a paper interesting. *Academy of Management Journal, 49*(1), 16-20.

Gray, K., & Wegner, D. M. (2013). Six guidelines for interesting research. *Perspectives on Psychological Science, 8*(5), 549-553.

Pollock, T. G., & Bono, J. E. (2013). *Being Scheherazade: The importance of storytelling in academic writing.*

(more to come)

Course procedures

The kick-off will give an advanced introduction to the structure of academic writing. In the first session, students will present their academic paper on ppt. In the following sessions, students write their paper and give feedback about the writing of a fellow student.

Assessment

Ungraded course; attendance and active participation is mandatory to successfully complete the course.

Workload

3 ECTS (90 working hours, 30 contact hours, 60 hours self-study)