

Master I (LS)

Methodology in Social Sciences

Writing a Thesis (Part II)

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Writing a Thesis

- ❖ The organization of the thesis is an important element that has to be taken into consideration.
- ❖ The body of the thesis or the main text constitutes the core of the research work.

The Body of the Thesis

- The body of the thesis includes the general introduction, literature review, practical section and general conclusion. It aims at presenting the theoretical and the empirical parts of the research work as well as summarizing the main results and providing the researcher's suggestions.

The Practical Section

- The practical section embodies two or three chapters involving the methodology, data analysis and data interpretation as well as suggestions and recommendations.

The Practical Section

- **Methodology:** This part of the thesis describes the steps of research. Thus, it deals with the purposes of research, the method, the sample and the description of the research instruments.
- **Data Analysis and Data Interpretation:** This section focuses on the analysis of the collected information. It also concerns the interpretation and the summary of the most important research findings.

- **Suggestions and Recommendations:**

This chapter is based on the researcher's suggestions that are generated from his/her own experience and reading. It presents a set of ideas and recommendations that aim at changing and improving the existing situation taking into consideration the research findings and the informants' propositions.

The General Conclusion

- The general conclusion describes the content of the thesis briefly.
- It outlines the problematic issue and research objectives.
- It summarizes the main research findings.
- It may list the limitations of the study.

- It states the implications of the study
- It highlights the necessity of further research.

The Supplementary Pages

- The supplementary pages comprise the bibliography and appendices. They inform the reader about the references and additional materials used by the researcher.

The Supplementary Pages

- The bibliography refers to all the works and books read by the researcher concerning the studied topic whether they are quoted within the thesis or not. It must include all the sources and references mentioned in the body of the thesis.

The Supplementary Pages

- The appendices consist of extra materials that can not be presented within the body of the thesis.
 - They can include the research instruments such as the questionnaire or interview.
 - They can incorporate the materials that are not produced by the writer of the thesis like students' written production, texts or textbook activities.

Writing a Thesis

- ❖ Thesis writing is a vital process that depends on the writer's skill and mastery of language. It has to be structured in a logical and consistent way. The form and the content of the thesis should be given importance in order to ensure the good quality of the research work.

References

- ❑ Ary, D., Jacobs, L. C., Sorensen, C.K., and Walker, D.A. (2014). Introduction to Research in Education. USA: Wadsworth.
- ❑ Meyerhoff, M., Schleeff, E., and Mackenzie, L. (2015). Doing Sociolinguistics: A Practical Guide to Data Collection and Analysis. London: Routledge.
- ❑ Oliver, P. (2008). Writing Your Thesis. London: Sage Publications Ltd.