

Guidelines for your Term Paper

Groups' activities

Populism, nationalism, conflict and digital diplomacy: case studies from:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Argentina | 8. Pakistan |
| 2. China | 9. Qatar |
| 3. Ethiopia | 10. Russia |
| 4. India | 11. Turkey |
| 5. Israel | 12. Ukraine |
| 6. North and South Korea | 13. USA |
| 7. Mali | |

1. What is a Term Paper?

A Term Paper is:

- a written text
- of about 7.000 words,
- organised into 4 or more sections

3. Searching for materials

- Looking for the right sources and defining your bibliography is an essential step in your work: pay attention not to underestimate the time you need to complete this stage.

3. Searching for materials

- When doing research in a library, make sure you check both virtual and paper archives. You can perform a subject search (i.e. by entering *colonialism*) or an author search (if you have identified an author who has written on the topic). When leafing through a book, you should pay special attention to the index and bibliography. References that appear in most bibliographies on a specific topic are likely to be the most relevant.

3. Searching for materials

- For your research on Internet you can use the most popular research engines (i.e. <http://books.google.com/>) where you can find the most recent publications, or the online catalogue of Italian libraries (www.sbn.it) which shows you in which libraries your books can be found. Please, remember also that the University grant you free access to a number of online journals where you can actually do a great part of your bibliographic research. To have access to those journals you should go to: <http://www.jstor.org/>.

3. Searching for materials

- When you use other Internet based materials, please, check always the reliability of the sources:
 - who is the author? Is he or she a scholar, a journalist or an amateur? Is he or she reliable? Which kind of sources is using? Are his/her main statements substantiated by evidences?
 - Whenever you use one of those sources, remember to write down the URL and when you accessed it. This will be very useful once you will have to write your final bibliography.

Sources: 1. International media

- <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/default.stm>
- <http://english.aljazeera.net/news/africa/>
- <http://www.africanews.com/site>
- <http://allafrica.com/>
- <http://www.nytimes.com/>
- <http://www.lemonde.fr/>
- <http://www.guardian.co.uk/>
- <http://english.cctv.com/01/index.shtml>

Sources: 2. Institutional sources

- <http://www.crisisgroup.org/home/index.cfm>
- <http://www.africa-union.org/root/au/index/index.htm>
- <http://www.hrw.org/>
- <http://www.eisa.org.za/WEF/calendar.htm>
- http://www.arableagueonline.org/las/index_en.jsp
- <http://www.oic-oci.org/>
- <https://www.mercosur.int/en/>
- https://european-union.europa.eu/index_en
- <https://asean.org/about-asean/>
- <https://igad.int/>
- <https://www.saarc-sec.org/>
- <https://eng.sectesco.org/>

Sources: 3. local media

- <http://www.mg.co.za>
- <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/>
- <http://www.lequotidien.sn/index.php>
- <http://egyptdaily.com/>
- <http://rt.com/>
- <http://www.nation.com.pk/>
- <http://europe.chinadaily.com.cn/>
- bloggers

4. Organising your materials

- Once you have finished collecting your materials you will discover that you have a lot of stuff to organise.
- At this stage you will understand how much material related to your research is actually available.
- If you did not find enough materials you should ask yourself if you choose a topic too specific or if you did not organise your search for materials in a proper way.
- Once you have organised your materials you should start systematising your thoughts.
- The best way to do it is to write down a draft index (table of contents) inclusive of the main themes you plan to discuss, organised in chapters and sub-chapters.

5. Writing your paper

- When you have finished with all these preliminary activities, you can start writing.
- In your writing you should always be clear and must always explain the meaning of technical terms, acronyms, and foreign words that you might have used
- Moreover, through your footnotes and bibliography, you must also make clear that your reader is able to trace back the sources that you used during your research.

6. Structure of the paper

- 1 – Index (table of contents)
- 2 – Introduction:.
- 3 – The core of the paper
- 4 – Conclusions:.
- 5 – You might include an Appendix where you can put copies of the most relevant documents utilised in your discussion.
- 6 – Bibliography

6. Structure of the paper

- 1 – Index (table of contents)
- 2 – Introduction: here you explain briefly **what** is the topic of your dissertation; **why** you have chosen it; what is your main point; **which** sources you have used (books, articles on journals, websites, archival research, fieldwork, interviews etc...) **how** do you think you can contribute to further expand the knowledge about the topic you choose.

6. Structure of the paper

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- 3 – The core of the Paper where you discuss the main points of your topic and which should be divided into three or four sections.
- 4 – Conclusions: on the basis of what stated in the Introduction (2) and of the analysis developed in the core of the thesis (3) you should come out with some broad conclusions which sum up the main points of your dissertation and might also suggest new lines of research to be pursued.
- 5 – You might include an Appendix where you can put copies of the most relevant documents utilised in your discussion or relevant iconographic materials.
- 6 – Bibliography

7. Bibliography

- Please, remember that the index and the final bibliography are what first strikes the reader of your dissertation. Therefore they should be organised and written very carefully.
- There are different bibliographical styles. I expect you to follow meticulously the style that is shown below, making sure that you include all the information listed. Quoted sources must be listed alphabetically according to the family name of the author.

7. Bibliography

- Quoted sources must be arranged according to the following format:
- Style format:
 - Full name of the author (or editor)
 - *Title of the book or article* (always in *italic*)
 - Place of publication
 - Publisher
 - Date of publication

7. Bibliography: examples

- Books with one author:

J. E. Thompson, *Mercenaries, Pirates, and Sovereigns*, Princeton, Princeton University Press, 1994.

- Books with two or more authors:

L. Fawcett and A. Hurrell, *Regionalism in world politics: regional organization and international order*, Oxford, Oxford University Press, 1995

- Paper published in edited books:

D. Pool, *The Eritrean People's Liberation Front*, in C. Clapham (ed), *African Guerrillas*, Oxford, James Currey, 1998, pp. 19-35

7. Bibliography: examples

- Articles on scientific journals:
- S. Ellis, “Writing Histories of Contemporary Africa”, in *Journal of African History*, 43,1(2002):pp. 1-26
-
- Articles on Internet:
- C. Chan, “China in Africa – Spreading the Wealth”, *Canada Asia Commentary*, 44 (2007)
<http://www.asiapacific.ca/sites/default/files/archived_pdf/commentary/cac44.pdf>, accessed on Friday 25th January, 2013 (This date refers to the day when you read or downloaded the document)

8. Appendix

- At the end of your paper, you might decide to add a selection of some of the most important and significant sources that you have used for your research. They should be documents which have been crucial to your research and that you think it would be useful for the reader to have access to them. They could be: texts of official treaties, correspondence, pictures, governmental or institutional reports etc..

9. Footnotes

- Footnotes are used to quote your sources and might also be used to further clarify issues discussed in the body of the text. To quote your sources is a basic and crucial task which strengthens your arguments and gives its scientific relevance by showing to what extent you consulted primary and secondary materials.
- Your sources should be quoted using the standards mentioned in section 7

10. Maps

- To make your paper more understandable you should use as much as possible maps (general and thematic)
- You might find plenty of maps on the web. A good source is: <https://legacy.lib.utexas.edu/maps/>
- Maps should always be accompanied by:
 - A short caption
 - Mention of the source

10. Maps: example



1. The disputed areas of Kashmir

From Perry Castaneda Library, Map Collection

https://legacy.lib.utexas.edu/maps/middle_east_and_asia/kashmir_disputed_2003.jpg