

Advanced Research Methodology

3. Structuring the Research Topic

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How you will be understood clearly

- Start with the common knowledge about your topic.
- Give the reader additional information about the topic.
- Give a clear information about the central problem you see.
- What is the proposal of your study?
- What methods do you use in your study?
- What format for your proposal will you choose?
The last 4 are depending on your approach:
 - ▶ empirical-analytical,
 - ▶ social constructivist,
 - ▶ critical theory,
 - ▶ pragmatist
- What results do you expect?

Style of Writing

- In general your writing should be:
 - ▶ clear
 - ▶ concise
 - ▶ concrete
- Techniques:
 - ▶ write down your ideas as early as possible
 - ▶ avoid a complicated language
 - ▶ clarify in what order you will develop your thoughts
 - ▶ Don't obstruct your creative process by preoccupation with the final polish
- Language:
 - ▶ is there a clear connection of the thoughts and arguments from sentence to sentence and from paragraph to paragraph?
 - ▶ Does your writing deliver what the headline or section title promises?
 - ▶ Does your inquiry hold what your title is suggesting?

Ethical issues

- There are codes of ethics in most disciplines
- Plagiarism is one of the most common forms of ethical misconduct by:
 - ▶ stealing text passages of others
 - ▶ stealing thoughts of others
 - ▶ misunderstanding the freedom of the internet
- Abuse of dependents by:
 - ▶ stealing their ideas and texts
 - ▶ using them as test persons for experiments
 - ▶ sexual harassment
- Fraudulent practices with findings
 - ▶ suppressing
 - ▶ falsifying and distorting
 - ▶ inventing