

University of Cologne
Faculty of Management, Economics and Social Sciences
Cologne Center for Comparative Politics
Prof. Dr. André Kaiser
Prof. Dr. Sven-Oliver Proksch
Prof. Dr. Ingo Rohlfing
Prof. Dr. Christine Trampusch



General assessment criteria for term papers, BA- and MA-theses

Author:
Title:
Grade:

Criterion	Lecturer's comments
Introduction Comprehensive, stringent, guiding, the structure of the paper is explained	
Research question Research question is precise and justified	
Structure Logical, consistent and according to the research question	
Literature, current state of research, theory Literature research is comprehensive and precise, current state of research is reported, theoretical frame is consistent, clear hypotheses and expectations are formulated, key concepts are defined	
Independent work and transfer of knowledge Approach to the literature, own thoughts identifiable	
Quality of data analysis Data sources Operationalization Quality of tables and figures	
Quality of research method and empirical analysis Method is suitable and described clearly Congruence between theory, method, empirical data and conclusion Extended discussion and summary Critical evaluation of method and findings	
Conclusion Clear reference to introduction, provides answer to the research question	
Language, linguistic style, expression Diligence, precision, eloquence, comprehensibility	
Formalities Citation rules, tables and figures, paragraphs, table of contents, reference list, etc.	

Grading scale: 1 = very good (excellent), 2=good (significantly above average), 3=satisfactory (average), 4=sufficient (requirements met despite deficiencies), 5=not sufficient (considerable deficiencies, requirements not met)

Intermediate values by 0.3 are possible; 0.7, 4.3, 4.7 and 5.3 are excluded.

Additional comments: