

Infosheet

Zulassungsarbeit (Bachelor-Arbeit, Master-Arbeit)

1. Legal requirements

a) LPO 2012

- „Für die Bearbeitung eines Themas ... aus einem vertieft studierten Fach für das Lehramt an Gymnasien ... soll ein Zeitraum ... von sechs Monaten vorgesehen werden.“
- „ ... Arbeiten aus den Prüfungsfächern Englisch ... können in der jeweiligen Sprache abgefasst werden.“ (SOLLTEN!)
- „ Die Arbeit muss erkennen lassen, dass der Prüfungsteilnehmer zu selbstständigem wissenschaftlichen Arbeiten befähigt ist.“

b) It is advisable that applicants who intend to write a ZULA (or Bachelor / Master paper) have attended a course on research methodology.

c) Zula papers consist of *at least 40* pages (not more than 60), Bachelor papers of *at most 40* pages, Master papers of 80 pages.

2. Topics

As you should enjoy writing, and be successful, it is best if you come up with a topic that interests you, and is doable.

3. Structure

- Title page: See Styles section.
- Table of contents: with section numbers, subsection numbers, page numbers
- Introduction: It contains your motivation for dealing with the topic. State your goal in relation to the problem, give plausible examples and a brief outline of the paper.
- Theoretical part (ca. 20 pages): It gives the background of the paper and contains a discussion of the research that has already been done on the topic, and presents these results accurately and systematically.
- Empirical part (ca. 20 pages): This may be the description of a teaching sequence (planning, carrying out, evaluating a multi-lesson project) against the background of the action research paradigm (classroom research), and should be accompanied by various quantitative and qualitative research methods (classroom observation, questionnaire, interview etc.). Do not forget to describe your techniques of data collection and analysis (participants, method, analysis). Finally present and discuss your results.
- Discussion and conclusion: In the discussion you give a summary of your results and relate them to the goals discussed in the *Introduction* and to the findings discussed in the *Theoretical part*. Discuss problems which occurred and open questions which remain. Finally, possible applications of the results can be mentioned. You may also wish to give an outlook on further developments.
- References: Here you list all works cited in your paper – not more.
- Appendix: You may have extensive research data, tables of results, and so on. These belong in an appendix. For some kinds of paper you may also wish to include a CD-ROM.
- Declaration on non-plagiarism: Remember to add a page at the end of the paper with the following text and your signature (plus place and date): „Hiermit versichere ich an Eides statt, dass ich die vorliegende Hausarbeit selbständig und ausschließlich mit den im Literaturverzeichnis angegebenen Quellen und Hilfsmitteln angefertigt habe.“

4. Useful resources

- Seminars on research methods
- Handout with methodological references (to be obtained with Prof Thaler)
- QUASUS: online platform qualitative research methods (www.ph-freiburg.de/quasus)
- **Bibliographical research (IFS!):** www.uni-marburg.de/ifs/literaturrecherche/index.html ► **commented literature list**
- Mindt. 1995. Unterrichtsplanung Englisch für die Sekundarstufe I. Stuttgart: Klett, 118ff.
- Thaler. 2012. Englisch unterrichten. Berlin: Cornelsen.

5. Abstract

Applicants are asked to hand in an abstract (3 pp.) containing

- personal data
- working title
- research field, research question, research design (methods and techniques)
- first draft of contents

6. Style: cf. our **Style Sheet** (Homepage)!

7. Stages of writing

Writing a research paper involves the following steps:

1. Planning and finding of topic
2. Reading and cutting down your topic
3. Collecting data
4. First version

You write a first version of your paper according to the structure and styles outlined here. Please remember that your paper needs to have a line of argumentation (think of trying to convince the reader of why research on your topic is interesting and why your study is necessary). Make sure you include only relevant material. Ask yourself with every passage, table and graph: do I need this for my argumentation? If the answer is "No", get rid of it.

5. Revision

You will probably notice flaws in your argumentation, gaps or other things that need to be revised. Also check your spelling and your bibliographical references.

6. Submission

8. Evaluation

In particular we mark the following aspects:

- Correctness
- Clarity of structure and expression
- Scientific treatment of topic
- Your own ideas
- Presentation
- Language

In case of any trouble, please contact us:

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