

How to create a thesis paper

I. Why a thesis paper?

- The purpose of a thesis paper is to make an oral presentation - whether in a seminar, colloquium or examination – more comprehensible in its structure for the audience and discussion partners. With the help of a thesis paper, listeners find it easier to follow and may already write down what they want to inquire later on. Lecturers can look for starting points for the subsequent discussion.
- The thesis paper is neither a table of contents nor an elaborated short paper. It rather should contain an extract of all important statements in writing, which are developed and stated during the lecture.
- A thesis paper should therefore help to get communication going on a factual basis. Ideally, a thesis paper shouldn't cost any additional work. It is nothing else than a concise and carefully formulated presentation guide. Important requirements for the preparation of a thesis paper are therefore: The contents to be dealt with are worked out, clarity has been provided as to what is required, which material and literature are presented and which thoughts are elaborated independently.

II. How is a thesis paper structured?

The thesis paper as a whole should not exceed one to max. two DIN A4 pages with single line spacing. The length may vary by prior consultation if working in a group. The structure of the thesis paper is basically based on the following scheme:

- Header: Formal specifications: Speaker/seminar/lecturer/topic/date/place
- Presentation part: Information on content and structure: Short explanation of the topic
- if necessary also by means of diagrams
- Theses: 1, 2, 3 ...
- List of the most important literature used

III. What are theses?

- Trivial, but important: Theses belong on a thesis paper! The form of the statement in theses should serve to provide a comprehensive assessment in the shortest possible time on the one hand and as structured and memorable as possible on the other. Theses must be short and should express in a trenchant way what you want to say.
- Therefore, these are to be written in short and concise sentences, which outline the author's line of argumentation and point out the respective issues.