



Experimentelle Pädiatrie und Neonatologie

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Guidelines for writing an exposé for a doctoral project

As part of a doctoral thesis, submission of an exposé is a requisite. The exposé would serve as a blueprint for your doctoral thesis, providing a clear outline for each step in the process, as well as questions you plan to address. The scope of exposé should be 10 pages and should show that the candidate have clear questions and goals about the research project, argue their relevance and address them in a sound theoretical and methodological way. The realistic time needed to finish the research work and a clear idea about what the candidate expects from the research work should also be included in the exposé.

Recommended structure of the exposé

1. Abstract

A brief overview of the research project giving concise description of the topic, scientific relevance and purpose of the research project, and possibly conclude how the results of the work might enhance the understanding of the research question.

2. Introduction

Precise explanation about the state of research on the topic, an overview of current and previously tested approaches and results about the relevant topic. Identify the deficits and points of criticism in the existing literature. The contribution intended to provide to the existing research.

3. Research question

With the knowledge gained in introduction formulate a precise and concrete research question and hypothesis and explain it in a structured and elaborated way. A statement on the relevance of the approach to address the question.

4. Methodology

Describe in detail the specific methods planned to be used in the research project and their significance. Mention also using which methods the final data will be analyzed.

5. Work plan / proposal

Using the research question and selected methodology think about how to plan and proceed in answering the research question and develop a schedule. Give a detailed state of current preparation and realistic time plan to the implementation and completion of the thesis.

6. Discussion/Conclusion

Here you can present your scientifically based expectations and compile an outlook.

7. Bibliography

The list of references should include all the works referred/cited to in the exposé. Please choose one academic quotation style and stick to it.