

STEPS IN WRITING A THESIS CONCLUSION

The conclusion is the very last part of your thesis or dissertation. It should give an overview of the steps you took in conducting your research.

Remember that a key task of a conclusion is to identify what it is that makes the whole greater than the sum of the parts. This research clearly illustrates X, but it also raises the question of Y. Now check whether there are other key words, phrases or ideas that are mentioned in your introduction that fit into your conclusion. This is incorrect. Important though this is, however, you also need to be sure to sell your research in the conclusion - so it is best not to be too negative or over-modest about your achievements at this point. Remember, life is never that simple. A good way to do this is to simply display your contributions in a bulleted list. The conclusion should be clear and relatively brief. Writing your Conclusion You may have been permitted, and have chosen, to include your conclusions in the discussion section, see our page on Results and Discussion for some ideas about why you might choose to do this. The conclusion should not introduce new data, interpretations, or arguments. This page gives some advice about what is often included and why. Collating your dissertation may introduce errors of formatting or style, or you may notice duplication between chapters that you had previously missed. London: Routledge. A conclusion is, in some ways, like your introduction. Pay special attention to make sure you explain why your thesis is relevant to the field of research and how the results of your research fit in. New York: Prentice Hall observe a number of useful "ingredients" that form part of a conclusion. Scribbr editors not only correct grammar and spelling mistakes, but also strengthen your writing by making sure your paper is free of vague language, redundant words and awkward phrasing. These tend to include things like a larger sample size, different context, increased longitudinal time frame, etc. Usually, you should start writing your conclusion by first taking notes, and you should do this while proofreading the initial draft of your work. The conclusion should be clear and relatively brief. Instead, you might consider introducing the main focus, explaining why research in your area is important, and the overall importance of the research field. There are two types of recommendations you can make. What do I know that no one else knows? In a thesis that set out to make a theoretical argument based on an analysis of case studies, it might begin like this: By analyzing changing representations of migration and UK border policy in the past ten years, this thesis has shown how media discourse can directly and indirectly shape political decision-making. Abstract This is a one page summary of your dissertation or thesis, effectively an executive summary. Examples While X limits the generalizability of the results, this approach provides new insight into Y. Your main contribution to knowledge likely exists within your empirical work though in a few select cases it might be drawn from the literature review. A common mistake by students when addressing these questions is to again go into the analysis of the data collection and findings. Make sure that you employ transitional phrases to ensure that the reader knows how the sections are linked to each other. Other Elements for Inclusion Title Page Your university will almost certainly have formal guidelines on the format for the title page, which may need to be submitted separately for blind marking purposes. Download a checklist to help you edit your written work What are the typical 'ingredients' of a conclusion? If you use the word conclusion several times in an essay, the reader will give up trying to work out where the conclusion really is. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press. While you might write the sections on different days or even different months, it all has to look like one continuous flow. Your reader will probably wonder: "Why should I care? These are what you must constantly ask yourself while you are writing your dissertation conclusion. The biggest mistake that students make is simply not including this sub-section. In some cases, it may be that your research is somewhat urgent e. Ultimately, writing a good abstract is the same as writing a good dissertation ; you must present a logical and organised synopsis that demonstrates what your research has achieved. What can proofreading do for your paper? In a dissertation or thesis, there is likely to be a longer section on the limitations of your research. Referring back to the literature review and showing how you have addressed a gap in knowledge. You have already taken a first step by restating your thesis in your conclusion.