Censor instructions MITRA4040, fall 2018

The course is intended to make students continue searching and reading the research literature relevant for their master thesis projects. It follows from MITRA4030, where students developed their master's projects and further prepares them for the research and writing of their thesis. The course is completed with the submission of a document that is at least an annotated bibliography and at best a bibliographic essay, based on a body of research literature relevant to the thesis's topic. The document is assessed as "pass" or "fail".

A submission that passes the exam contains at least 15 relevant titles, listed with complete bibliographical details and with annotations that summarise each title's research question and main argument(s), identify and describe its theoretical and methodological assumptions, and specify its empirical scope ("topic") and primary evidence in four, five sentences. Ideally, the annotated bibliography is developed further to a bibliographic essay, that may also contain upwards of 15 titles, but engages them in a critical discussion in a "state of research" text of ca. five standard pages. A submission fails the exam if it contains less than 15 relevant titles and offers insufficient information about the texts research questions, arguments, approaches, primary sources and