

HUMR5191 – Research Methodology and Thesis Development

Spring Semester, 2012: Assignment due on 5 March at 12 noon

Written assignment (home examination)

Assignment instructions

The written paper must be typed on a computer and comply with the following requirements:

Font: Times New Roman, font size 12 and a line spacing of 1.5.

Word count: Between 2,900 and 4,400 words (approximately ten pages), footnotes included. Not included in this count: the front page (with name, title, etc.), summary, table of contents and references (bibliography).

Template: Please use the template which can be found here; the format is rtf.

[http://www.jus.uio.no/english/studies/student services/juriteket/
http://www.jus.uio.no/tjenester/it/hjelp/maler/template-assignment.rtf](http://www.jus.uio.no/english/studies/student services/juriteket/http://www.jus.uio.no/tjenester/it/hjelp/maler/template-assignment.rtf)

Structure (contents): Write an outline of a thesis. The outline will take the form of a preliminary draft that explains the theme you wish to investigate, positions it within a research context, shows its relation to international human rights, indicates how you will go about to carry out the research, suggests any preliminary conclusions, and ends with a bibliography.

Technically the paper should be well organised, with titles and subtitles, footnotes and references. The paper should contain:

(1) *Table of contents*

(2) *Introduction.* The introduction should contain the following points:

- Interpretation of essay question;
- Formulation of research question, reasons you would give for formulating this/these question/s including a short explanation of the relevant background or context (justification);
- Literature review: A short discussion of existing studies with particular relevance for your own work, thereby identifying your own disciplinary approach;
- Clarification of terms (definitions) if necessary;
- Presentation of the structure of the text (an overview of the chapters).

(3) *Methodology.* If relevant, a discussion of methodological issues that your research question raises and how you want to address these issues, including a description of the main sources that you will use in your assignment (e.g., an overview over applicable legal standards, procedures and sources).

(4) *Main text (body.)*

This is the section where you develop the arguments.

(5) *Conclusion.*

(6) *Annex: List of references (bibliography) or use of legal style formatting with references in the footnotes,*

The use of footnotes references in the bibliography should be consistent. An example bibliography can be found in the guidelines for writing a thesis:

http://www.uio.no/studier/emner/jus/jus/PILTHESIS/dokument/Pamphlet_thesis_2010_4.pdf

For more practical details about submission and rules about cheating and plagiarism please read carefully the following instructions:

Formal requirements:

Please remember to indicate:

- A) Candidate number (4 numbers) on the front page (we kindly ask you *not* to indicate your name)
- B) Course code on front page **HUMR5191**
- C) Title of the paper
- D) Please name your paper with your candidate number (4 numbers) in the hand-in folder in Fronter. You will find your candidate number in the *Studentweb* one week prior to the submission date.
- E) Remember page numbering.
- F) Remember to fill in the *self- declaration regarding cheating* and submit it directly in Fronter.

Submission in Fronter

Submit your assignment in Fronter, before 12.00 hrs on due date. Log into Fronter (<https://fronter.uio.no/>.) and find the room **HUMR5191-assignment2012vår**, go to folder “**Assignment**” then submit your assignment in the following subfolder:” **Assignment due 5 March**”.

(NB! Make sure that your assignment is *submitted in the correct folder*)

General instructions on uploading in Fronter are available here:

<http://www.jus.uio.no/english/services/it/fronter/tutorials/submit.html>

Rules about cheating and plagiarism

When you take facts, thoughts, ideas, viewpoints and short or long quotations from others and use them in your own work, the sources you have used must be clearly stated. In other words you must not give the impression that others’ thoughts, ideas, viewpoints and results are your own if they are not.

For example, using word-for-word or even paraphrasing the language of a UN Report without attributing the source of that language is plagiarism. Using another’s idea without attributing the idea to the person who conceived it is also plagiarism.

Avoid quoting long excerpts and articles; short citations are preferred, and instead provide an evaluation of the literature that is necessary to defend your points of view.

Be sure that you are familiar with the use of sources and the rules for citing/quoting from others' work when writing assignments and theses.

<http://www.uio.no/english/studies/admin/examinations/cheating>

Read also information on the rules about Citing/quoting and referring to sources.

<http://www.uio.no/english/studies/about/regulations/sources/index.html>

UiO uses a plagiarism checking tool as one of several instruments for detecting suspicion of cheating and attempted cheating.