

# HUMR5191 - Research Methodology and Thesis Development

## Assignment - due May 2nd, 2011

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### Written assignment

#### A. Content:

Write an outline of your thesis of approx. 10 pages (i.e., between 2,900 and 4,400 words). The outline will take the form of a preliminary draft that explains the theme you wish to investigate, position 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.

The written paper should preferably be typed on a computer using font size 12. A line spacing of 1 1/2 is to be used.

The paper should contain:

- (1) The research question;
- (2) Justification: Reasons you would give for choosing this research question including a short explanation of the relevant background or context;
- (3) Literature review: A short discussion of existing studies with particular relevance for your own work, thereby identifying your own disciplinary approach;
- (4) Methodology: 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 thesis.
- (5) Structure of thesis: An overview of the chapters demonstrating how you plan to carry out the work and organise the text. Also technically the paper should be as good as possible: well organised into titles and subtitles, footnotes and references.

Footnotes should be included in the main text. The following comes in addition to the main text: the cover page (with name and title etc), summary, table of contents, bibliography.

Students may use the following Word template (which you should use later on when submitting your thesis); the template can be found here – the format is either .rtf or Open Office: <http://www.jus.uio.no/english/studies/studentervices/juriteknet/>

The cover page should contain the following:

- a) Name of the assignment
- b) Name of the course
- c) Date and place for handing in the assignment
- d) Your candidate number (you will find your candidate number in the Studentweb one week prior to the submission date). We kindly ask you *not* to indicate your name.

Remember pagenumbering.

### ***Guidelines on quotations, references and bibliographies in the assignment/essay:***

You will find information about how to make references etc. here:

<http://www.uio.no/studier/emner/jus/humanrights/HUMR4140/h10/undervisningsmateriale/Guidelines%20for%20the%20essays.pdf>

### **B. Submission of the assignment**

Within the deadline May 2nd students should:

- a) Submit your paper in Fronter, before 15:00 hrs on due date. Log into Fronter and find the room HUMR5191 Fronter Assignment - 2011 vår -> go to folder 'Assignment' -> then submit your paper in the following folder: 'Assignment due May 2<sup>nd</sup> – submittance'. (NB! Make sure that your paper is *submitted in the correct folder*).
- b) If you prefer to submit your paper via e-mail, you should send it to: [b.l.kraabol@jus.uio.no](mailto:b.l.kraabol@jus.uio.no). We appreciate if you could insert in the *subject line* to the e-mail the following (written in capital letters): EXAM HUMR5191.
- c) **Papers handed in after the deadline will not be considered.**
- d) When handing in your assignment, you should at the same time hand in a declaration about cheating (this document will be given to you upon delivery of your assignment).

### **C. 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.

Read more about the rules about Citing/quoting and referring to sources here:

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

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