

Examiners' guideline for term paper in SOSGEO4800, spring 2019

The examination consists of a short term paper (4000, +/- 400 words). The term paper discusses or empirically investigates a topic chosen by the student. The topic must be selected from within the themes covered in the course and it must be approved by the person responsible for the course. The central themes of course were the following: 1) Culture and values, 2) Cultural differences/similarities and distances, 3) Cultural/value change, 4) Democracy and populism/authoritarianism/radical right and other topics also covered by the course were: Globalization, Immigration, Acculturation and Cultural racism. Students were instructed to base their papers as much as possible on the literature from the course, though they were allowed to use additional literature when necessary.

The main criteria according to which the term paper will be evaluated:

1. Does the term paper make use of the relevant theories and texts discussed on the course? Did the student ask for approval of the topic?
2. Are the concepts used in the paper understood and described correctly?
3. Is there a clear research question or a central statement in the paper? Is it clear what the aim of the paper is?
4. Is the theoretical and practical relevance of the chosen topic underlined?
5. Is the research question novel and puzzling? Does the student bring any original perspectives?
6. Does the term paper answer the research question or provide convincing arguments in favour of the central statement?
7. Are the arguments used objective and logical?
8. Is the paper concise and focused on answering the research question? Or is there too much irrelevant information?
9. Is the structure of the paper logical and easy to follow?
10. Does the student demonstrate ability for self-reflection and discuss potential limitations of the paper?
11. Are references and citation sources correctly used?
12. Does the student comply with the formal requirements for the term paper, in terms of length, formatting, etc.?