

Guidelines for Research papers BMI 231

I. General

For the mid-semester report, aim for 1,000 – 1,500 words

For the end of semester report, aim for 1,500 – 2,000 words

The deadline for the papers will be given during the course

The reports will all be sent to Moodle and will be checked for plagiarism by Urkund. Any plagiarism will result in disqualification

The purpose of the two reports is to allow you to research a particular subject and to provide your own angle on it

II. Topics

For the mid-semester report, you should choose a subject from the subject list (one subject per student)

For the end-of-semester report, you can choose any subject, but must send an outline to me before starting, in order to get approval

You might want your final report to be linked to your mid-semester report, but this is not necessary

You might think of relating a theory or topic to a particular country

III. Techniques and requirements

1. Make a title page including your name and student number, the name of the course, the ESSCA logo, the title, and the name of the teacher (Dr Rees)
2. Give a short table of contents at the beginning of the paper.
3. Provide the reader with a short introduction into the topic.
4. Finish the introduction by stating the research question.
5. Provide an analytical structure which balances your research interest with the evidence in sources and other opinion in secondary literature.
6. Use one of the following referencing methods to quote primary and secondary literature.
 - Footnote: giving author, title, place of publication, year, page number
 - Reference in the main text: (author, year: page number)
8. Finish the main body of the text with conclusions on your findings.
9. The conclusions should not be a summary of the main arguments, but should provide a personal point of view.
10. Provide any necessary appendices, e.g. maps, excerpts of treaties, etc., after the main text.
11. Attach a bibliography – a comprehensive overview of the used sources – at the end.
12. If you use web sources, add a Webliography providing the web address, the source (website), the author, and the title of the article, film...

IV. Final provisions

1. Only the main text counts towards the word limit.
2. Footnotes, bibliography and appendices are excluded for that purpose.
3. Use 1.5 line spacing and 12 font size
4. Put page numbers on the pages
5. Send the paper as an attachment by e-mail to Dr. Rees (david.rees@agrocampus-ouest.fr). Do not use his ESSCA address.
7. Send a copy to the plagiarism checker at ([link to be provided later](#))
8. A paper copy is not necessary.