

Guideline and requirements for written assignments in the research unit Peace and Conflicts Studies

The **length** of a term paper amounts to **4,500 words** at the **BA level** and **6,000 words** at the **MA level**. The “Referatsausarbeitung” should amount to 3,000 words (including bibliography and footnotes, excluding table of contents, annexes, etc., which are additional).

Please adhere to the following *format*: 1.5 line spacing, Times New Roman, 12 pt. font, block style paragraphs, 2,5 cm. left and right-hand margins.

Requirements: The chosen area of research should be directly related to the course. The paper should engage with and explore a scholarly topic of your choosing. Your introduction presents the topic, your epistemic interest, your research question, the relevance of your question, your theses as well as your theoretical and methodological approach. Then delineate an outline of your paper.

The purpose of the main body of the paper (which is divided up into separate subchapters) is to answer your research question in a structured way, which means that your research question serves to guide your engagement with the work. In addition, the main body serves to embed the main topic or objective (e.g., historically, geographically, etc.) and to explore the respective theoretical framework in relation to contemporary debates. Demonstrate the pertinence of your chosen theoretical approach to the exploration of your particular research question. The goal is not only to detail a summary of relevant literature, but to discuss the question critically and to center your argument. If your work has an empirical focus, a chapter on methodology should explain the methods of data collection and analysis, and should define and explain the concepts and categories of analysis that are central to your topic. Moreover, the criteria for the selection of material should be unveiled.

The aim of the conclusion is to summarize the outcome of the discussion and apply it to the research question. Furthermore, you should discuss what the resulting implications of your findings are for current debates and theory.

Submissions: via e-mail to the lecturer

Standards for academic writing: Please be mindful of a coherent style of citation and attribute all sources and quotes to their respective authors. Plagiarism is strictly prohibited and will have consequences. Bibliographies must be complete and in alphabetical order according to the authors' last names.

Please be attentive to the linguistic style and grammatical form of your work; please be precise in your use of key terms and vocabulary and avoid discriminatory language (for example: <https://www.fu-berlin.de/en/sites/diversity/antidiskriminierung/sprache/index.html>).

Examples for a bibliography can be found here:

[Zeitschrift für Friedens- und Konfliktforschung](#)

[sub\urban Zeitschrift für kritische Stadtforschung](#)