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Department of Journalism and Mass Communication

Topic: Chapterization

(Communication Research Methods)

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Introduction

▶ Before starting your dissertation or thesis you should start by setting out each chapter, section and sub-sections. The outline of the report should clearly reflect the logical details of the thesis

▶ The logical structuring of chapters, sections and sub-sections help to introduce the reader systematically to the necessary background and makes him/her receptive to the new ideas and conclusions which he or she will be exposed to

Chapter classification of a dissertation or thesis

- Introduction
- Literature review
- Methods/Methodology
- Research results
- Conclusion

Section 1 – Introduction

▶ Your dissertation or thesis will start with an introduction

▶ Here you should introduce the reader to the topic, telling the reader precisely what you are going to do and why it is worth doing

▶ The introduction is usually a summary of the project proposal explaining what you are interested in and why and in general sense how you intend to study your topic, specifying your objective.

Section 2 - Literature review

▶ The literature review chapter(s) is an important part of your dissertation or thesis and it takes a lot of work and time to complete

▶ It identifies the research that already has been completed in your topic area and provides an analysis of all current information relevant to the topic

▶ It should demonstrate that you have read broadly in your field and that you understand the important and analysed the literature relevant to the topic

▶ "It is important for the student to note that it is essential to complete most of the literature study before proceeding to the final planning and execution of the research"

Section 3 – Methods and the materials

- The research methodology will explain to your reader the methods you used to gather the information and data for your paper to answer your research question, almost like a recipe

- Start the chapter with a clear explanation of the methodology that will be used to solve the problem

- Provide a detailed description of the components of the methodology

- Describe what the methods are all about and how you have executed the methodology. It should be clear why you choose to use this specific methodology for answering your research question

Section 4 - Research results and discussions

▶ This component also known as "the body" of the dissertation or thesis, consists of the final results of the research, your analysis of them and your sub-conclusion

▶ Your findings can be anything from data from archives, results from an experiment or answers to questions

▶ Arrange the data into tables and figures and arrange it in such a way that the specific groups of data correspond

▶ Conclusions and findings must always be clear on which facts and/or published literature the conclusions and findings are based

Section 5 - Conclusion

▶ In the final chapter all the loose ends are tied up and you must tell your reader what you have discovered in each phase of the research process and the worth of it

▶ Here you give an overview of the research process clearly formulate your findings and conclusions regarding the research problem, sub-problems or hypothesis

Essential requirements for a Dissertation/Thesis

▶ Title page

▶ Declaration

▶ Preface – noting collaborations, and contributions to authorship

▶ Acknowledgements

▶ Table of contents

▶ List of tables, figures & illustrations

▶ Main text/chapters

▶ Bibliography or list of references

▶ Appendices

For more:

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THANK YOU