**DIS Global Economics**

**Core course on Globalization and European Economies**

**Guidelines for Research Paper**

**Introduction to Research Paper:**

Through the work on the research paper the students should get the opportunity to demonstrate and develop his or her academic skills. The student should 1) develop a deeper knowledge and understanding of the topic studied, 2) develop and demonstrate the ability to independently formulate a question for analysis in the area of Globalization and European Economies, and 3) carry out the analysis in accordance with accepted academic standards. The analysis must be grounded in relevant theories and data from the social sciences, apply relevant methodologies, and show a critical awareness of the methodological and theoretical choices involved.

**Aims of Research Paper**

Through the work with the Research Paper the students are given an occasion to develop and experiment with their capacity to *independently and critically* use, combine, and assess methods and theories in the context of work on a problem relevant to Globalization and European Economies. This means:

- Formulating, delimiting and operationalizing a study of a question/research problem within the realm of Globalization and European Economies

- Selecting, discussing, and using relevant theories/methods.

- Selecting, discussing and using relevant empirical material.

- Reflexively documenting the analysis and discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the paper

- Presenting the results of the analysis in a logically coherent, structured and linguistically adequate manner.

**Milestones along the writing process**

February 19: Research Paper start-up

February 26: Submit 1 page containing a preliminary RQ incl. sub-questions, expected theories and models, and expected types of data needed with data sources.

March 15: Submit 2-4 pages similar to previous submission, expanded to 2-4 pages.

April 30: Final workshop.

May 4 @ 23:59: Submit final Research Paper and presentation material

May 7 @ 8:00 – 11:00: Presentations of research

**Submission of final paper and presentation**

Deadline for submission of the Research Paper plus presentation material is May 4, 2018 at 23:59 Hours.

The paper and presentation material should be submitted electronically on Canvas. Students are free to form group across sections.

Each paper should have a size equal to 5 pager + 3 pages per group member, i.e. a group consisting of 3 members would target a size of 14 pages. This is not including the required front page (see attachment to this document), the required executive summary, the required bibliography or the optional table of contents. Figures and tables are not counted in terms of space. You are allowed unlimited appendices, although you should not expect the reader to look at these (their only purpose is documentation). A normal page contains 2,400 characters incl. spacing with 12 pt. font and 1.5 spacing.

Students are free to decide on the format of the presentation. We encourage students to be creative in their approaches to what a presentation is. It could be interesting to see a part of a presentation in the format of e.g. a video documentary of any kind, iMovie, or any other type of visual communication. Or perhaps a presentation in the form of a *poster.* Your imaginations are the only limits. All presentation materials (power points, visuals, etc.) should be uploaded along with the paper. No matter which format you choose please make room for a *live* summary and discussion in the end of the presentation. A presentation should last for approximately 10 minutes plus 3 minutes per group member and all group members should speak during the presentation. The following discussion is not included in the presentation time.

**Paper Outline**

The paper is expected to contain the relevant models and theories pertaining to the subject used during class, downloaded on Canvas or from assigned readings. Other findings can be included to add to the depth of analysis, including data/information gathered during study tours and supplementary readings. It will add to the quality of the paper to include relevant literature and theories in excess to syllabus.

The paper will be seen as both theoretical and empirical, ideally starting with the theoretical aspect of the subject followed by an empirical analysis. The paper should be divided into relevant sections with adequate headings, typically including the following. Number of pages shown in brackets are approximate recommended out of 8-10 pages:

**A. Introduction (max 1 page)**

The purpose of the introduction is threefold. 1) There should first be a general introduction to the topic in general. This gives context and hopefully makes the reader interested. 2) Then the specific “problem” is introduced, how the author plans to “solve” the problem (carry out the analysis), and what the result of the analysis is (conclusion). 3) This leads to the Research Question (RQ) and 2-4 supporting sub-questions. The RQ is a clear sentence exactly stating what the author wishes to investigate, i.e. what question he or she wants to find the answer to. The supporting sub-questions are meant as pieces of the puzzle. Each sub-question should have its own part of the analysis section and hence lead to one insight. The introduction should end with an outline of the structure of the paper.

**B. Literature, theories and Models used (1-2 pages)**

This section presents the framework for how the author plans to analyze the problem stated in the RQ. The section should have two sub-sections. 1) Firstly, the section should introduce the topic researched in general. This sub-section should in broad terms introduce the topic and give an overview of the state-of-the-art literature, theories and models. 2) Secondly, the section should address the specific problem stated. This part requires a little more literature search because it needs to be specific to the question. Both sub-sections should preferably contain literature presented in the course supplemented by additional relevant sources.

**C. Data (1-2 pages)**

This section presents relevant data collected in order to carry out the analysis. Data can be both qualitative and quantitative, although economists tend to mostly work with quantitative data. Data can be presented by the use of tables, graphs, descriptive statistics, and other pedagogical means of presentations. Qualitative data is presented in accordance with sound academic habits. The data section should present data in an objective manner without analysis if possible. Choice and hence collection of data should be theory driven.

**D. Analysis (3-5 pages)**

The analysis section brings together the theory section and the data section. In a perfect world analysis is where the author “looks” at the data through the lens of the theory to understand the cause of the “problem” and be able to “solve” it. This is where insights are developed, which eventually will lead to the conclusion. Each sub-question is analyzed individually and each sub-analysis should lead to one to two insights. When the analysis is done all sub-questions have been answered and several insights developed.

**E. Discussion and conclusion (1-2 pages)**

The discussion section discusses possible interpretations of the insights and argues for how they should be understood if not clear enough. The discussion should put the insights into perspective and bring together in a hopefully coherent manner (meaning that all insights should hopefully point in the same direction). Discuss possible solutions to the analysis made and try to form a synthesis of such solutions that are not necessarily easily determined. Sometimes the analysis might even reveal conflicting issues. Make your assessment based on the analysis and synthesis, listing the pros and cons of your interpretations. Finally, the conclusion is a clear answer to the RQ. There should not be introduced any new information in the conclusion.

**F. Abstract and executive summary**

On the front page, there should be an abstract of 100-200 words <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abstract_(summary)>.

The first page after the front page should be an executive summary of maximum one page <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Executive_summary>.

Additional reminders:

* Find a balance between citation/quoting from sources and your own judgment. Quotes without evaluation or without attempts at arriving at a synthesis do not pay off.
* The consistency of the analysis is important, i.e. is there a clear connection between the research question, the analysis, the evaluation and the conclusions drawn?

**Evaluation criteria**

* Ability to formulate a research questions in a precise and relevant way and a well-founded selection of models and theories
* The theoretical and methodological choices in the paper are explicitly reflected upon and justified as is the related use of sources (primary and/or secondary).
* The advantages and limits of the paper are explicitly reflected upon.
* The paper is clearly presented and written.
* The paper is overall marked by independence and originality with regard to the choice of topic, theories, methods, data-collection, and the analysis.
* Application of empirical findings to illustrate the theoretical discussion
* Depth of analysis based on relevant theory and empirical materials with clear consistency between the problems addressed, the discussion, the evaluation and the conclusions drawn
* Draw a conclusion; put this conclusion into perspective and, as a part of this, set up implications with a broad scope

**Some hints to solid research papers:**

* Have access to useful data
* Keep a tight structure where the descriptive parts are reduced to the necessary minimum.
* Use tools learned in the course to improve the analysis.
* Have a strong analytical level, where arguments are supported with relevant data.
* Set up a clear and interesting problem to analyze.
* Make a clear conclusion to the analyzed problem.

DIS Global Economics

Core Course: Globalization and European Economies.

Submitted by:

Section:

Teacher:

Research Paper

(Text of Title)

Globalization and European Economies

### Danish Institute for Study Abroad

Abstract:

(100-200 words)