



## Doctoral Program in the Social Sciences:

### ➤ Guidelines for the Dissertation Exposé (§ 4 Zugangsordnung)<sup>1</sup>

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#### I. General Instructions

An application to the Doctoral Program in the Social Sciences must include an exposé on your planned dissertation project as well as a positive evaluation and statement of support from your advisor regarding the proposed project.

1. Your exposé should include the topic, the research problem to be addressed, the research goal, the methodological approach, a literature list, and a schedule.
2. Your exposé may be written in either German or English. It should be approximately 10 pages and be understandable without reading the cited references or attached publications.
3. If your dissertation project is part of a larger research program (e.g. funded by a research grant), please also briefly describe it and explain the thematic relationship between your project and that of the larger program.

#### II. Exposé Organization

The following instructions for writing your exposé explain the doctoral program's admissions regulations and serve as a guide to the social science faculty's contents and structural requirements.

1. Applicant
  - First Name, Last Name, academic degrees
  - Address: Semester and permanent addresses (also e-mail address)
2. Advisor
  - Name, Office address
3. Dissertation Project
  - a) Discipline
  - b) Topic
    - Abstract (no more than five lines)
  - c) Summary
    - This summary serves to provide the Graduate Studies Committee with information about the main goals of your research topic. Summarize your research project in no more than 15 lines..

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<sup>1</sup>Vgl. Merkblatt der DFG für Anträge auf Sachbeihilfen mit Leitfaden für Antragstellung (1.02), <http://www.dfg.de/forschungsfoerderung/index.html>

- d) State of research, your preliminary work
- Sketch the state of research directly relevant to your dissertation topic and as a basis for your own work, including the most important work.
  - Please clarify where you see your contribution to the literature. To which larger research problems would you like to contribute your own original part?
  - Please synthesize the most important results of your relevant research (e.g. prior theses, conference contributions, publications). Please attach a list of your own and/or co-authored publications.
- e) Goal and Research Questions: Short description of the scholarly project and scientific goals.
- Research Steps: Detailed description of the planned research steps to be taken during your doctoral program.
  - Methodological Approach: In-depth presentation of the methods to be applied in carrying out the project. Which methodological tools are already available to you, and/or which must still be developed?
  - Schedule
- f) Literature List