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Information for writing your Bachelor thesis with Prof. Debjani Bhattacharyya

Preconditions:

Attending one of my classes before deciding on your Bachelor thesis topic is highly recommended. If you have written a seminar paper with me, you are welcome to develop that into a Bachelor thesis, provided it integrates new sources, new historiographical, theoretical or methodological debates and a deeper exploration of the research question.

Procedure:

If you are interested, please make an appointment with me during the first two weeks of the semester of your Bachelor thesis to discuss your idea with me. It is also highly recommended that you begin early. For instance, if you are writing your thesis during the Autumn term, feel free to contact me during the end of the Spring term (i.e. end of July) and for Spring term, you are welcome to come and discuss your ideas end of January. 24 hours before our first meeting you will e-mail me a title and a short abstract (5000 characters). Your abstract should have a well-crafted research question and it should outline some of the primary sources and secondary literature. Once we discuss the topic and accept your Bachelor thesis proposal, you must book the Bachelor Thesis module (Bachelorarbeit) before the end of the normal booking period. After the booking period, you will receive a link to a database from Student Services of the Faculty of Arts (Studiendekanat). Please enter your name, provisional title, and Prof. Bhattacharyya as your supervisor into this database.

Following our initial discussion about the topic and direction of research, you will be required to book at least three meetings with me during the semester. 4 days before each meeting, you will send me a working draft of your thesis progress. The idea behind these meetings is for me to support you in developing the research question, discussing the state of the field, your use of primary sources and advice you on the structure of thesis. To book an appointment with me please email me at debjani.bhattacharyya@hist.uzh.ch.

Scope of the thesis:

Your thesis should be around 30-40 pages (75,000 to 100,000 characters) of text including footnotes (without bibliography) and include a signed Selbstständigkeitserklärung.



Submission:

Please submit your thesis in digital format as a single pdf document (Lastname_Shorttitle_Date.pdf) to [debjani.bhattacharyya \[at\] hist.uzh.ch](mailto:debjani.bhattacharyya@hist.uzh.ch)

Deadlines

If you wish to graduate in the Spring Semester, the Bachelor Thesis must be handed in by 1st June. If you wish to graduate in the Autumn Semester, the deadline is 1st December.

Style guides and further information

For English-language Style Guide please follow this comprehensive document from the UZH-ETH Language Center:

https://www.hist.uzh.ch/dam/jcr:2c18b293-84dd-4b5f-b38d-c55741ccb3f6/Style_guide.pdf

“Kompass Geschichtsstudium” on general guidelines for academic writing in German at the Department of History:

<https://www.hist.uzh.ch/de/studium/Studienrelevante-Dokumente/kompass.html>

Content guidelines and forms such as declarations of authorship, can be found here:

<https://www.hist.uzh.ch/de/studium/Studienrelevante-Dokumente/richtlinienformulare.html>

For more information on graduation procedures please visit the websites of the Department of History and of the Faculty of Arts:

<https://www.hist.uzh.ch/de/studium/bachelorstudium/Aufbau/abschluss.html>

<https://www.hist.uzh.ch/de/studium/bachelorstudium/Aufbau/abschluss/bachelorarbeit.html>

https://www.phil.uzh.ch/de/studium/studentenservices/abschluss/bachelor_HS19.html