

Your Excellent Dissertation: Research Questions

Mats Braun

Research objective and research questions

Topic selection– why should effort be spent on this research topic?

Which is the general aim of the dissertation

Which are the more specific research questions you will answer

Hypotheses - short statements that can be tested, most often assumptions from theory

State your limitations

Check if your questions in the introduction correspond to your answers in the conclusion

Research design

The research problem and research questions are crucial for theoretical and methodological choices

Some questions can best be answered by quantitative others by qualitative research

Consider if you can obtain/access information that allows you to answer the research questions

Always make a review of what other people have written on the topic

Explain all the choices you make in the writing process as carefully as possible

Independence and Coherence

All parts of thesis should help you to answer the research question

You will have to make choices – do not include everything that is related to the topic

Be independent in relation to your sources

Do always cite all sources

Do not make things more complicated than they are – write in a clear and simple way