

## **Guidelines for the internship paper**

The internship paper should be an explicit outline of an academic assessment of the internship from the perspective of socio-cultural anthropology. In order to formulate analytical questions that may be addressed during the internship, it is recommended that students contact their supervisor before they start their internship.

Supervisors for the internships must be employees of the Institute of Anthropology, with an examination permission (i.e. professors and senior academic staff). They will grade the internship paper. Just like a regular term paper, the internship paper addresses a specific research question. Here are some exemplary approaches:

- a) The institution, in which the internship takes place, will be explored anthropologically according to prevailing social structures, hierarchies and roles, values, key concepts and prevailing forms of communication, tensions between structures and ideas, etc.
- b) The goals of the institution will be scrutinized from a critical anthropological perspective (e.g.: an internship in a museum may engage with exhibits or exhibition themes; an internship in an organization of international cooperation may engage with the subject of “development”, etc.).
- c) Specific experiences can become the topic of the term paper when they are linked to specific fields within the discipline (for example: anthropology of bureaucracy, anthropology of waiting, gendered or class-based divisions of labour, and the like).

Even though students have preliminary discussions with their supervisors, the topic or the research question may take a different direction during the internship. Therefore, it is advisable for the student to communicate with the supervisor throughout the internship.

The student is expected to evaluate anthropological and, if necessary, other literature that is relevant for the scientific exploration of the internship. Ethnographic material from the internship should be part of the paper, if it contributes to the argumentation. Please keep in mind that ethical standards need to be met (consent of the observed, anonymisation etc.). The term paper, thus, demands a reflection of the student’s positionality during the internship: What role did the student have in the institution during the internship? What factors distinguished the student from other members of the institution? How did the student’s gender, class or cultural background influence or shape the internship?

Please clarify the following questions — with the supervisor, if necessary:

What is the anthropological aspect of your internship?

Which subfield of sociocultural anthropology does your internship belong to (i.e. environmental anthropology, anthropology of migration, anthropology of organisation etc.)?

Which literature is most relevant? What are the central anthropological concepts? What are the guiding research questions?

Which topics and questions are to be addressed?

Which methods can be used in your internship? Interviews? Investigation of spatial structures and temporal processes? Body techniques? What is observable in a participatory way?

What application of anthropological knowledge do you see within the professional field or occupational group of your internship? Why might an employer be interested in hiring a sociocultural anthropologist? How can anthropological knowledge help to improve the field?

What is the relationship between theoretical elaboration and ethnographic analysis of the internship experience?

You should reflect upon these questions, even if you do not use them in your internship paper eventually.

The internship term paper is equivalent in length and form to a term paper of approx. 15 pages (about 7000 words), plus bibliography. The term paper must be handed in no later than 6 months after the end of the internship.