

INTELLECTUAL AND FORMAL STANDARDS
OF SCIENTIFIC LEGAL RESEARCH AND WRITING
Contribution to the course *Methodology of Legal Research and Legal Writing*

Contents

Preliminary remark: At the Faculty of Law of Universitas Gadjah Mada the courses are shared by several lecturers. This table informs about the contents of my lectures in October and November 2022.

§ 1 Scientific legal research and writing in a nutshell

- I. Quick introduction: How to write a course paper
- II. Crash course: How to avoid common shortcomings in Indonesian legal publications
 - be aware that a publication in English is addressed to an international audience
 - scientific work is thorough - do not try to discuss a complex subject in a short paper
 - a scientific paper is well-structured by a logically and materially consistent cascade of headlines, sub-headlines and sub-sub-headlines
 - a scientific paper is not an essay but a well-focused and concentrated, precisely formulated & tightly written text
 - a scientific paper is written in an objective, not subjective style of writing
 - a scientific paper transparently discloses the applied legal methods and does not try to replace legal reasoning by moralising or religious reasoning
 - legal science is first and foremost a normative and hermeneutic, not empirical science
 - a scientific paper takes account of all relevant jurisprudence and literature on the topic
 - a scientific paper backs all information by precise and accurate references which allow to verify it
 - a scientific paper's bibliography is a well-structured documentation of scientific sources

§ 2 Intellectual standards of scientific legal research and writing

- I. Standards of intellectual authenticity and originality
- II. In particular: the fight against plagiarism
- III. Standards of intellectual accuracy, consistency and precision
- IV. In particular: precise and logical reasoning in accordance with the legal methodology
 - with brief overview of the methods of legal methodology
- V. Standards of intellectual thoroughness
- VI. In particular: How to find all relevant legal literature
 - with practical exercise in literature research

§ 3 Formal standards of scientific legal research and writing

- I. Introduction
- II. The formal structure of the scientific work
- III. In particular: the bibliography and the index
- IV. The scientific style of writing
- V. The art of scientific citing
 - with practical exercise in scientific citing
- VI. The formatting of the scientific text

More information on this course contribution at www.thomas-schmitz-yogyakarta.id. For any questions, suggestions and criticism please contact me in my office (Building A, room A.IV.11), via WhatsApp or via e-mail (tschmit1@gwdg.de).