

CSPA Thesis Workshop

Next Workshop

15 and 16 January (time table and place are to be announced)

The second year students are expected to submit research paper¹ and the first year student to discussion paper. The details are as follow.

Research Paper (for Second Year Students)

Based on the presentation and comments from staff and other students in December workshop, the second year students are expected to revise and expand their paper into “research paper”:

1. Research paper has to have the following components

- (1) A tentative title of your study
- (2) Problem statements or research background: general knowledge and circumstances of topic that you attempt to study. (e.g., What are, if any, problems to be studied? What are, if any, nature and general background of the problems as you focus?)
- (3) Research question(s): What is a question to be examined in your study?
*You need to, of course, defend why and how research question(s) has to be examined)
- (4) Main hypotheses: What is your main answer(s) to the research question?
- (5) Objectives and Significance: How is important your research question? What are benefits of your study?
- (6) Literature Review: Review of existing literatures. What is it being studied?
- (7) Uniqueness and originality: How is your work different from existing literatures? (cf. literature review)
- (8) Evidence: What will be studied?
- (9) Methodology: What methods will be used for analysing evidence?
- (10) Analysis of Evidence: What is your main interpretation of the evidence?
- (11) Conclusion: What is your substantive conclusion of your study?

¹ Including the first year students those who plan to complete thesis by the summer 2010.

2. Word length: recommended length is 3000-4000 words.

Keep to the balanced on word limit. Quality is not measured by length.

3. Students are expected to submit paper in e-mail list (I will instruct you later), at the latest one week prior to the workshop (approximately, 9 January 2010)

4. Please note that:

Research paper needs to **define, clarify and conceptualise** a series of key technical terms and notions that are crucial to your research (any ambiguous, less-clarified and illogical arguments are regarded as *no argument*). It is also necessary to show basic analytical and methodological skills, and to properly synthesise materials and evidence to be presented.

Discussion Paper (for First Year Students)

The first year students are required to choose **two research papers** among that the second year student would present, and carefully and critically read it: then will provide “discussion paper” within one week. It means you need to submit **two discussion papers**

1. A guided length of the discussion paper is more or less 1,000 words in each.
2. Student reviews (or summarised the key themes of the paper) and make comments and arguments what are merits and weakness of the paper.
3. Staff will feedback the relevance of discussion papers

Reaction Paper (for second Year Students)

1. Based on comments on the workshop and feedbacks from staff and discussion papers from the first year students, the second year students will revise the paper (**reaction paper**).
2. Reaction papers will be circulated in the email-list and open for questions and suggestions (staff will also feedback to reaction paper individually or in the email list).

For any further inquiry, please free to email me, Toru OGA, toga@law.kyushu-u.ac.jp