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| **Appendix 3**to Regulations for Term Papers and Theses prepared by students of *National Research University* *Higher School of Economics* *and London University* *Parallel Degree Bachelor Programme* *International Relations***Guidelines for Term Papers and Theses** |

**General directions**

The final theses and course papers should contain a set of academic results and provisions, have internal logical unity, testify and confirm to the author’s ability to analyze the problems of politics and international relations, independently conduct a research using theoretical knowledge and methodological skills, form research tasks and determine methods for solving them, conduct and analysis of the primary sources, analyze and use academic literature and outline prospects for further research. Term papers and theses should

General demands to term papers and theses are described in the *Regulations for Term Papers and Theses**Prepared by Students of the Bachelor’s, Specialist and Master’s Level at the National Research University Higher School of Economics:* [*https://www.hse.ru/docs/153240957.html*](https://www.hse.ru/docs/153240957.html)

**Size**

The recommended size:

* **16 000-18 000 words for final thesis** (without bibliography).
* **8 000-9 000 words** **for course papers** (without bibliography)

Size could be longer or smaller, depending on research task and methodology. In such cases size of the work, its size and other details should be discussed with the supervisor of the research project and be approved by him.

**Structure**

*Introduction* is a separate, independent unit of the work, which is located before the main part. The recommended size of Introduction is at least one quarter of the work. It needs to contain further points:

* substantiate the relevance and scientific significance of the selected topic;
* indicate the object of research and research question;
* indicate chronological framework;
* identify the goals and objectives of the study;
* formulate a hypothesis of the study;
* characterize the empirical basis of the study (review of primary sources);
* give a theoretical and methodological justification and describe research methods;
* literature review and state of academic debates on the issue
* evaluate why the elected topic and research is new;

*Main part* should consist of chapter and paragraphs. Number of chapters and general structure should be discussed with the academic supervisor.

In the *Conclusion* ***(recommended size is at least 1000 words for final theses and 500 words for course papers)*** should contain:

* brief conclusions on the stages of the study;
* sum up and conclusions on the results of research
* prospects for further research on the problem
* possibly – policy recommendation

**Grading policy**

The course works (Third year research papers) are graded by research supervisors based on the demands, implemented in the *Regulations for Term Papers and Theses Prepared by Students of the Bachelor’s, Specialist and Master’s Level at the National Research University Higher School of Economics:* [*https://www.hse.ru/docs/153240957.html*](https://www.hse.ru/docs/153240957.html)

The diploma works are graded according to the following policy:

**20% of the final mark** – evaluation of **the research proposal.** The research proposals should be based on the criteria, pointed out in the rubric, which could be found on the official website of the Programme.

The research proposals are graded by the commission of experts, appointed by the Academic Council of the Programme.

**80% of the final mark** – final defense of the thesis.

**Deadlines**

The key deadlines are indicated in the ***HSE Regulations for Term Papers and Theses*** (See above).

The deadline for delivering **the research proposals** is **February 20.** The research proposals should be sent to research supervisors and the Programme supervisor of research works (Dr. Dmitrii Novikov – dp.novikov@hse.ru).

**The deadline** for drafts of the Final Thesis is **April 5.** The students are expected to upload drafts via LMS system: <https://lms.hse.ru>

**The deadline** for delivering of the final text of the Thesis is **April 30**. The students are expected to upload final texts via LMS system: <https://lms.hse.ru> . After uploading no any changes could be made in the texts.

**The deadline** for Course Papers is **June 7.** The Course Papers final texts should be delivered to the research supervisors via e-mail no later than at this date. Any changes of texts after deadline or deadline removals are forbidden.