

# Doing Dissertations in Politics: A Student Guide



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by Simon Head

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

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Writing a dissertation is a major undertaking, but it can also be a rewarding experience. A well-written dissertation demonstrates your knowledge of a particular topic, your ability to conduct research, and your writing and analytical skills. It can also be a valuable asset when you're looking for a job after graduation.

If you're a student in politics, you will likely be required to write a dissertation as part of your degree program. This guide will provide you with everything you need to know to get started on your dissertation, from choosing a topic to writing the final draft.

## Choosing a Topic

The first step in writing a dissertation is to choose a topic. This can be a daunting task, but there are a few things you can do to make it easier.

1. **Start by thinking about your interests.** What are you passionate about? What do you enjoy learning about? Once you have a few ideas, you can start to narrow down your focus.
2. **Do some research.** Once you have a few ideas, do some research to see if there is enough information available on your topic. You can use the library, the internet, or talk to your professors.
3. **Talk to your supervisor.** Once you have a few potential topics, talk to your supervisor. They can help you to refine your topic and make sure that it is appropriate for a dissertation.

## Conducting Research

Once you have chosen a topic, you need to start conducting research. This involves gathering information from a variety of sources, such as books, journals, articles, and websites.

1. **Start by using the library.** The library is a great place to find books and journals on your topic. You can also use the library's online resources to find articles and other materials.
2. **Use the internet.** The internet is another great resource for research. You can find articles, websites, and other materials on almost any topic.
3. **Talk to experts.** If you're having trouble finding information on your topic, talk to experts in the field. They can provide you with valuable insights and help you to find the information you need.

## Writing the Dissertation

Once you have conducted your research, you need to start writing your dissertation. This can be a daunting task, but it's important to break it down into smaller steps.

1. **Start by creating an outline.** An outline will help you to organize your thoughts and ideas. It will also make it easier to write your dissertation.
2. **Write the first draft.** Once you have an outline, you can start writing the first draft of your dissertation. Don't worry about making it perfect at this stage, just get your ideas down on paper.
3. **Revise and edit.** Once you have written the first draft, take some time to revise and edit it. This means checking for errors in grammar, spelling, and punctuation. It also means making sure that your arguments are clear and well-supported.
4. **Get feedback.** Once you have revised and edited your dissertation, get feedback from your supervisor and other experts. This will help you to improve the quality of your dissertation.

Writing a dissertation is a major undertaking, but it can also be a rewarding experience. By following the steps outlined in this guide, you can write a dissertation that is well-written, well-researched, and well-argued.



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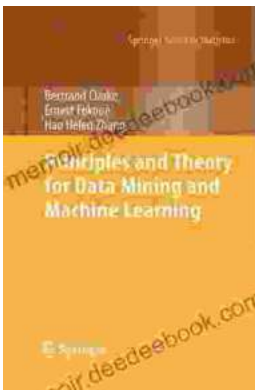
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