

Writing a term paper for the course
Applied International Environmental Management

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<http://homepage.univie.ac.at/david.wozabal/SS2011/iem.html>

every group (team of two students) has to write a report on the paper presented in the class. This document should help you in writing the report and explain the *dos* and *don'ts* that you should be aware of. The report should be roughly 13-16 DIN A4 pages long and has to be handed in as PDF file. When writing the report you should stick to the following formatting guidelines

1. **single line spacing;**
2. **11 point font size;**
3. **standard page borders (not too narrow).**

The following list contains tips on how to write the report and what to include in it (the *dos*).

- Give a concise overview of the paper describing the main goal of the authors as well as used methods and the results.
- Explain some of the results in greater detail, than it is done in the paper itself (this is the part where you can prove that you understood the methods that are used).

Example 1: Your paper discusses a mathematical economic model and uses optimization techniques to derive the results. Typically standard calculations are omitted in scientific papers. Try to provide some of these calculations in your report and justify why these calculations are correct and how they relate to the assumptions of the model.

Example 2: Your paper investigates a statistical relationship between certain variables and uses statistical modeling (for example *logit* or *probit* regression). Try to explain why the specific methods are used, how approximately these methods work and what their advantage over competing methods is.

- If your paper is too long highlight certain aspects that you find especially interesting and describe these in greater detail (cut short other parts).
- Use your own words.
- Try to give your personal opinion on the paper.
- You will get extra credits for also including material from other sources (don't forget to cite!).

In the following I describe a few things that you should avoid doing (the *don'ts*).

- Do not just focus on the mere results of the paper (i.e. the introduction and the conclusion) but also write on how they were obtained.
- Do not copy and paste text from the paper into your report.
- Do not use sources which you don't cite.