

## PhD paper presentation at ATTR seminars

In all seminars and summer schools, the PhD students' own presentation of papers based on their dissertation work, with prepared responses by other PhD students, is central. The focus of the discussions will be primarily on methodological matters and interdisciplinary insights.

Please read ATTR's Seminar guide carefully.

## Papers

ATTR operates with two levels for the participating PhD students. One (basic) level will cover the start-up processes and early work on the PhD projects, academic writing, and paper presentations, while the other (advanced) level will cover later and more advanced work in the final stages of dissertation writing. Hence, there are two options for paper presenters:

- I. **Project presentation**, for those who participate for the first time and are early in their research process:

Present your project, 10-15 pages, excluding bibliography. The written project presentation should begin with an abstract (max 150 words) that includes your research question, method/approach, and main conclusions.

- II. **Part of thesis/Chapter**, for those who have presented their project at an earlier ATTR event and/or are late in their research process:

Present a part of your thesis, between 15-25 pages, excluding bibliography. In addition, you should include a table of contents for the whole thesis, and a one-page description of your project that describes the place of the current paper within the thesis as a whole. Note clearly what you would like the respondent to focus on.

## Before you submit your paper:

Format: Times New Roman, size 12, double space. Do not forget to number the pages.

Convert your file to .pdf.

Name your document: Last name, option I/II, Paris 2017 (for example "Bergsjø, I, Paris 2017" or "Bergsjø, II, Paris 2017"). This information should also be in the document, for example in the header.

## Paper presentation

This is an important opportunity to practice your presentation skills, so prepare well.

You have exactly 5 minutes to present a summary of your paper. Make sure that you introduce your project in such a way that the audience understands what the main points are, and where the challenges lie, especially with regard to methods/approach. Advice for academic paper presentations can be found here: <https://www.aarweb.org/annual-meeting/presentation-tips>.

Presenting a paper is an opportunity to receive valuable interdisciplinary feedback on your project, and a chance to be part of a critical and constructive exchange of opinions related to your theories.

## Respondents

To give a response is an important part of academic life. Please use the opportunity to practice your critical and analytical skills, and learn from interaction with the different methodological approaches that you may encounter in the paper you are asked to respond to. Again, there are plenty of tips online, for example <http://cies2016.org/presentation-tips/>

You will be assigned two papers to respond to. Please prepare written responses so that you can also give them to the presenters after the seminar. You have 5-7 minutes for your oral response. Make sure that you,

- Point out exactly what you think is good (praise often tends to be too vague, but if specific it constitutes just as valuable feedback as critique does).
- Point out any challenges that you may detect in terms of methods/approach and content.
- When responding to papers that are not directly related to your own field of study, remember to treat that field with as much respect as you do your own.

## Seminar groups

Each seminar is led by a seminar leader and consists of two presentations. 40 minutes is to be devoted to each paper, and the seminar lasts for 1.5 hours.

In each of the two 40-minute sessions, there will be,

- 1 paper presentation, not more than 5 minutes
- 2 responses, 5-7 minutes each
- Ca. 20 minutes open discussion

Note: All PhD students attending seminars are expected to have read the papers and prepared comments for both presenters in their group; these comments may be communicated during the open discussion. You are strongly encouraged to actively participate in the discussion of all the papers in your seminar group.

The list of groups/presenters/respondents will be distributed together with the papers.

## ATTR learning goals

**Methodology:** The objective of ATTR is to create a venue where interpretive methodologies can be critically discussed, evaluated, and developed, so as to broaden the candidates' perspectives and heighten the quality of their analyses.

**Presentation and writing skills:** The seminars aim not only at providing a setting for constructive discussions relating to thesis work, but also at preparing the candidates for life after their dissertations. ATTR thus aims to hone students' presentation and writing skills, skills that may be useful for development of research projects for which funding can be sought from, e.g., ERC and RCN.

**Networking:** In all its activities, the creation of an interdisciplinary network of young scholars in order to ensure the highest possible academic quality of PhD education is a central goal of ATTR.