

College of Commissioner Science



DCS 503:

Developing Your Project or Thesis



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Asst. Council Commissioner

Greater Tampa Bay Area Council

4/1/2023

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About Me





Retired Navy



Scouter: 39 years and counting...



20+ years of Commissioner Service



9 years as a District Commissioner



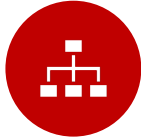
Doctorate in Commissioner Science (2018)



Wood Badge – 1988 / Course Director – 2007

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Learning Objectives



Develop a project plan or thesis



Methods of gathering information



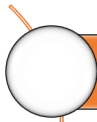
Draft a project or thesis outline.

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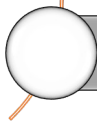
Thesis Development



- A good thesis has two parts:



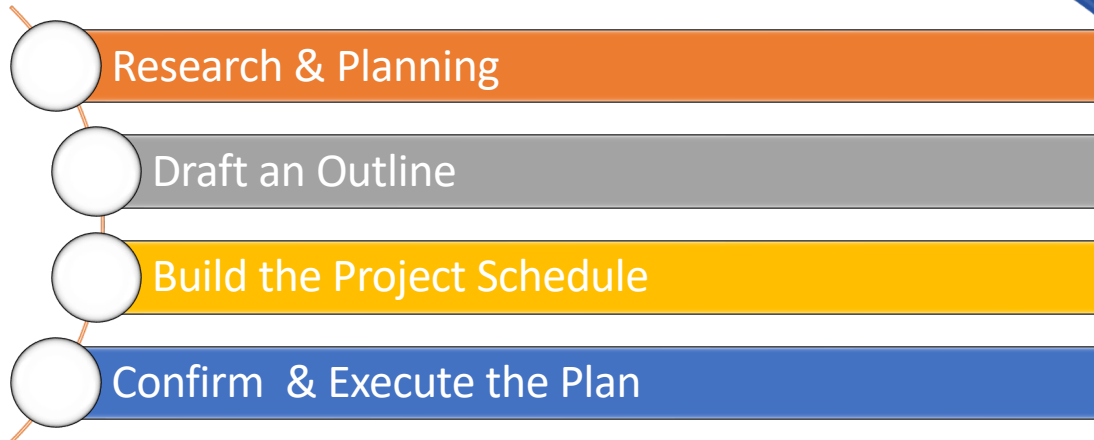
The Premise



Support for the Premise

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Project Development



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Research Sources



**Where can
you find
information?**

Internet Research*

Library research*

Surveys/Questionnaires

Interviews

Observations

Scouting and/or Topic Related Literature*

Group Interviews

Other Related Data

6

Questionnaires and Interviews



Tips:

Decide what information you are trying to get.

Put your questions in a logical order.

Are your questions slanted or biased?

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Questionnaires and Interviews



Example:

B
I
A
S
E
D

All politicians are corrupt.

Everyone knows that this is the best restaurant in town.

U
N
B
I
A
S
E
D

According to the latest survey, 60% of the population supports the new policy.

The scientific evidence suggests that climate change is a real and pressing issue.

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Questionnaires and Interviews



Tips:

Avoid “Yes” or “No” questions.

When using a rating scale, avoid middle-of-the-road responses.

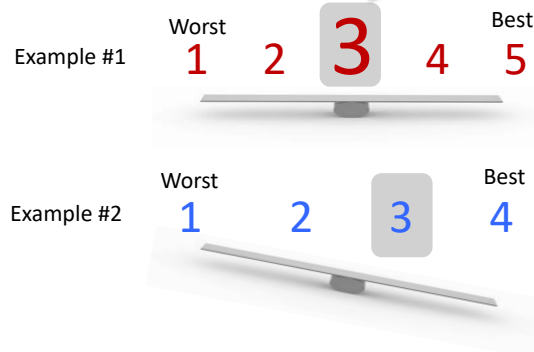
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Questionnaires and Interviews



Example:

How was this class?



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Extra Resource!

<https://www.scouting.org/resources/los/>



Language of Scouting



The Language of Scouting and BSA Style Manual
Revised February 2020

This reference is the Boy Scouts of America's definitive resource on terms and style specific to Scouting and this organization. The *Language of Scouting* encompasses style, usage, grammar, and spelling norms observed by the Boy Scouts of America and used by the Marketing Group and Communication Services Department and its approved editorial and publishing partners. These standards have been developed so that the BSA can disseminate resources and other information in the most professional, consistent, coherent, and uniform manner for all forms of communication—print, digital, multimedia, etc.

Scouting terms are based in part on the *Charter and Bylaws* and *Rules and Regulations of the Boy Scouts of America* (available [here](#)). Grammar, spelling, style, and usage decisions are based on the latest editions of the following references, in order of preference: *Merriam Webster's Dictionary*, *The Associated Press Stylebook*, and *The Chicago Manual of Style*. Turn to these resources (in the given order) for further reference. The *Language of Scouting* always takes precedence. Note: If an entry is capitalized, it should be capitalized whenever it is

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Write Your First Draft



- Introduction:
 - ✓ Capture the reader's attention.
- Paragraphs:
 - ✓ Represent a new phase of the topic.
 - ✓ Avoid excessively long paragraph transitions.

If at first it isn't right – rewrite, rewrite, rewrite!

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Reread – Revise - Rewrite



- READ your report or thesis aloud.
- Ask yourself:

Could it be better?



Point made?

Too wordy?

Makes sense?

Structure right?

Spelling & grammar correct?

Tips:

Proofreader

Adviser

Revise

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Editing to Prepare for Publication (Continued)



Save your work often and have
back-up copies!

Communicate & meet with your
adviser frequently!

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Breakout



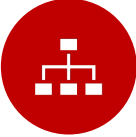
Project

Thesis

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Summary



-  Develop a project plan or thesis
-  Methods of gathering information
-  Draft a project or thesis outline.

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Questions?
Comments
?



Thank You!