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# General criteria for scientific writing



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schreibcenter

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## SchreibCenter at the Language Resource Center

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### Objectivity

When doing research and scientific writing, you should take a neutral position and adopt an analytic perspective. Your readers need to be able to understand your results as well as reconstruct how you obtained them. It is especially important that you give all of your sources.

### Precision

The results of research should be understandable to your readers. Therefore, you need to define the terms you use clearly and explain any abbreviations. You also need to specify and define the object of your research.

### Reliability

The measure of your research results determines their reliability, i.e. an exact measure gives them high reliability. You need to take into account any possible factors influencing the object of your research and make sure they do not change your research process accidentally.

### Sufficiency

You should show the knowledge you used as the basis for your scientific text as completely as possible, depending on the context and length of your text. This includes a summary of the state of research in your particular topic.

### Honesty and transparency

By giving your sources, you give the reader a chance to see which ideas and findings you added to the body of literature on your topic. In addition, this shows that you did not plagiarize other people's work and therefore did not commit fraud.

### Ethics

In scientific research, you should always meet general ethical standards.

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Based on:

Voss, Rödiger (2017): Wissenschaftliches Arbeiten ... leicht verständlich. 5., überarb. Aufl. Konstanz: UVK.