Seminar Paper

Template for a Seminar Paper

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I hereby confirm that I have written the seminar paper with the title **Template for a Seminar Paper** in the seminar **Advanced Topics in Knowledge Bases** (lecturer: **Simon Razniewski**) on my own and that I have not used any other media or materials than the ones referred to in this seminar paper.

I further confirm that I did not submit this or a very similar seminar paper in another seminar.

Saarbrücken, November 7, 2018 _____

Contents

1 Introduction

This document is intended to serve as a brief guideline and template for students participating in the seminar Advanced Topics in Knowledge Bases at Saarland University (winter term 2018/2019). Thus, it covers several formal specifications, according to which all seminar papers should be written. In particular, this template also contains several LaTeX commands and explains how citations should be given.

In the introduction section, there is typically a motivation and an explanation about the topic that is addressed in the seminar paper. It is also important that there is an overview of the remainder of the seminar paper at the end of the introduction. Furthermore, it should be stated explicitly what aspects of the topic are covered. By the way, using this template, there is not too much space on a single page so that I suggest that your seminar paper contains at least **12 pages of content (starting with the page of the Introduction) plus any number of additional pages for references**. By the way, colloquial phrases such as *by the way* should not be used in a scientifically written document such as your seminar paper. Make sure that your seminar paper is written following scientific standards. If you wonder which LaTeX command is responsible that the "by the way" above is printed in italics, you should check the LaTeX source file of this template.

This template will further show you how tables and figures can be included in LaTeX (and what needs to be taken care of when having them in your seminar paper), and how citations are used correctly, which is particularly important.

Furthermore, the introduction should already contain information about what kind of results are achieved and what conclusions are drawn. In this template, for instance, it is shown how tables and figures can be included in LaTeX, and how citations are used correctly, which is particularly important. The outcome of this template is hopefully that your seminar paper looks like a scientific paper and that you followed the instructions that are given in this template. This would mean that independent of the content of your seminar paper, your seminar paper is already good with respect to the style of formatting and writing.

As mentioned above, at the end of the introduction you want to tell the reader how the remainder of the seminar paper is structured. An example for this template is:

The remainder of the seminar paper is structured as follows. In Section 2, further information about the template is explained. Then, in Section 3, the structure of a typical seminar paper is described, e.g, what sections are

(almost) obligatory. Section 4 covers some details about tables and figures. Finally, information about how to cite correctly are explained in Section 5. In contrast to your seminar paper, this template does not contain any summary or conclusions at the end - this should be different in your seminar paper.

2   General Information about the Template

In this template, it is assumed that you already know a bit about LaTeX and that you used it before. In particular, it is not explained how to compile a document etc. If you have not used LaTeX before, you should use a search engine of your choice and search for a "LaTeX Tutorial". Or maybe you want to get a LaTeX book from the library.
This template consists of four file, with one of them being located in a sub-folder.

- seminarpaper.pdf (pdf of the compiled LaTeX source file)

- seminarpaper.tex (LaTeX source file)

- seminarpaper.bib (BibTeX source file)

- pics/cat.jpg

What these files are used for is explained in the following subsections.

2.1   Personalize the Template

In the LaTeX source file, you first should adapt your personal information. The commands to do that can typically be found at the top of the source file, e.g., this template contains the following lines that should be adapted. By the way, by reading the source file, you might also learn a bit about LaTeX, e.g., how to define a new command.

```
%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%
% Title, Author, Seminar, Semester, Lecturer %
%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%
\newcommand{\mytitle}{Template for a Seminar Paper}
\newcommand{\myauthor}{J.\ Smith}
...
```

Once you adapted these command definitions and you recompile the LaTeX file, the title page and also the second page already change. One more word about the second page: you should read and understand that text, this is really important. And, of course, this statement has to be part of your seminar paper.

3 Sections

Before it is explained how sections and subsections should be structured, we first describe in Section 3.1, what kind of information should be given on the title page. In Section 3.2, the text of the declaration of page i is briefly described. Then, in Section 3.3, details about the table of content are provided.

3.1 Title Page

The title page should contain the following information, which can be clustered into three groups (top, body, bottom). At the top of the page (probably on the left side), you should list:

- name of the university

- name of the institute

- the current semester

- name of the seminar

- name of the lecturer

In the body part of the title page (i.e., in the middle) the following information is required:

- type of paper (in our case "seminar paper")

- title of the seminar paper (this should not be identical with the title that was assigned to you!)

At the bottom of the title page, some personal information about the author is required:

- name of the author

- matriculation number (you should hand in two versions of your seminar paper (with and without matriculation number) if you do not want that the other participants of the seminar know your number

- field of study and the semester in which you study

- your email address

- date of the submission (when you hand in your seminar paper)

3.2 Declaration on Page 2

Following the title page, there is a declaration on page two. You basically confirm that you did not cheat and that you follow scientific standards. The text of this declaration is:

> I hereby confirm that I have written the seminar paper with the title **Template for a Seminar Paper** in the seminar **Advanced Topics in Knowledge Bases** (lecturer: **Simon Razniewski**) on my own and that I have not used any other media or materials than the ones referred to in this seminar paper.
> I further confirm that I did not submit this or a very similar seminar paper in another seminar.

Actually you already know this text, because it is shown on page i. This text is shown here to show you how you can include long quotations in LATEX. In addition, you can find a place to write a date and your signature on this page. Make sure that the declaration is on its own page. To make sure that this is the case, this template contains the command:

`\newpage`

Furthermore, the page of the declaration should not contain a headline or footline. Thus, the command

`\thispagestyle{empty}`

was used in this template. If you want to know how it is possible to write LATEX commands in a LATEX file so that they are shown and not executed, you should check the source file of this template – although you probably won't need that in your seminar paper.

3.3 Table of Content

The table of content is automatically created by LaTeX. You can use the command

```
\tableofcontents
```

for doing so. All captions of the sections are added together with page numbers on which the section starts.

3.4 Sections, Subsections, etc.

In general, you should not use more than three levels of sections. Section, subsection, and subsubsection are the names of the three levels you probably want to use. These are enumerated like "1; 1.1; 1.2; 1.2.1; 1.2.2" etc. We use the following commands in this template to create them:

- `\section{Section}`

- `\subsection{Subsection}`

- `\subsubsection{Subsubsection}`

There are also things such as paragraphs and chapters, but you won't (will not) need them in your seminar paper.

4 Tables and Figures

In this section, it is explained how tables and figures can be included. Note that the following rules are particularly important:

- all tables and figures in your seminar paper require a caption – which should end with a "."

- all tables and figures, which occur in your seminar paper, have to be referred to in the text of your seminar paper

To create a caption of a table or figure and to refer to it in the text, you can use the commands

```
\caption{I am a caption.}
```

and

```
\label{tab:exampletable}.
```

First row, first column	first row, second column
second row, first column	second row, second column

Table 1: An example of a table.

In the text itself, you then use the command

```
\ref{tab:exampletable}
```

to get the number of the table (or figure). The same holds for all labels, e.g., to refer to a section: In Section 4.1, an example is shown in Table 1. If you use the words "table", "figure", "section" etc. in combination with a number to refer to a particular table, figure or section, these terms have to be capitalized. In addition, you do also use "section" to refer to a "subsection:".

4.1 Tables

For some types of content, it is a good idea to use a table. In contrast, Table 1 shows some content for which no table is required. But as you know, all this template is created to show you some examples. In addition, as all tables and figures in you seminar paper, this table is also nicely referred to in the text. Just in case the table or figure does not occur on the same page and you want to include the page number, there is the command

```
\pageref{tab:table}
```

which can be used. For instance: On page 6, Table 1 shows some content.

4.2 Pictures

The only reason why this section was written is to refer to a picture, which is included in the form of a figure. Figure 1 contains that picture.

5 Bibliography

As you already know, your seminar paper is supposed to follow scientific standards. Thus, it is particularly important that you cite correctly and that references are listed in a uniform way. By the way, you confirm that you know that by signing the declaration following the title page.

In general, there are different types of scientific works, which can be cited: books, journal articles, papers published in the proceedings of a scientific conference. As these are different types of scientific publications, they are
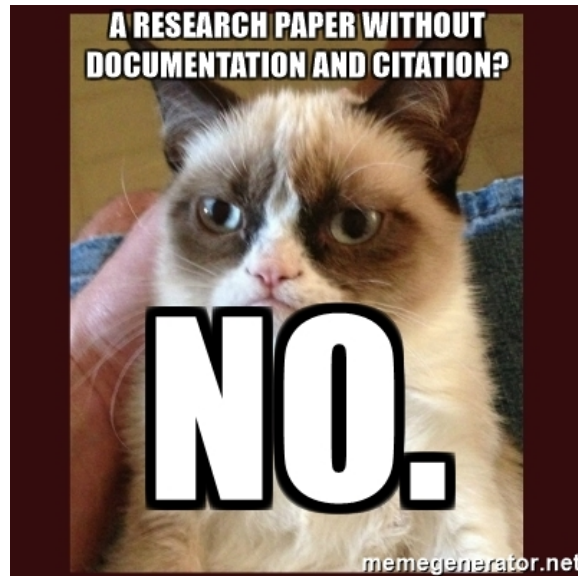
Figure 1: You have to provide the source of the picture if you did not create it on your own (source: memegenerator.net).

also handled differently. Furthermore, it is important to know that there are publications with a single author, with two authors, or with more than two authors. The number of authors has to be considered if you want to refer to the names of the authors directly. In case of a single author, you say *Author-Name-1* is a great researcher. In case of two authors, you say *Author-Name 1 and Author-Name 2* are great researchers. In case of more than two authors, you say *Author-Name 1 et al.* are great researchers.

To organize your references, you should create and use a separate file. It might be useful to use programs such as JabRef[1], but there are many more nice programs out there. By the way, we just saw how footnotes can be used in LaTeX. The command is:

```
\footnote{\url{http://jabref.sourceforge.net/}}
```

5.1 Bibliography Style

In LaTeX, you can use different bibliography styles. I suggest that you use *apalike*, which shows author names and years. Although *plain* is also frequently used, it assigns numbers.

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[1] http://jabref.sourceforge.net/

To use *apalike*, you should check the following command in the tex file of this template:

1. `\bibliographystyle{apalike}`

2. you also have to include the bib file containing your references in bibtex:

   `\bibliography{seminarpaper}`

5.2 Types of Publications

In this section, several types of literature are described. In the bibliography of this template, you can check how the different publication types are listed.

5.2.1 Book

In this section, we cite a book. "One fundamental characteristic of the database approach is that it provides some level of data abstraction" [1]. If you use a direct quotation from their work, you should use quotation marks. If you paraphrase something you do not have to use quotation marks, but you have to refer to the source. A paraphrase would be: In [1], Elmasri and Navathe state that one of the fundamental characteristics of the database approach is that it provides some level of data abstraction.

5.2.2 Papers

Another example are scientific publications that have been submitted to conferences/journals. These are then often peer-reviewed and, if accepted, published in so-called conference proceedings. Compared to a book, such articles look different in the bibliography list.
For instance, at the ACL 2017, we published a paper on existential information extraction [2].

5.3 A Beautiful Bibliography

A beautiful bibliography should be uniform. That is, you should not abbreviate some of the author names or conferences while others are not abbreviated. In particular if you use bibtex entries that you find on the web (e.g., via Google Scholar[2]), make sure that your bibtex file is clean and uniform. "I got these references from Google Scholar, so it's Google's fault" is not a satisfactory excuse.

---

[2]`http://scholar.google.com`

5.4 What you should not do

This template stops now. In contrast, your seminar paper should end with a nice summary and conclusions.

References

[1] Ramez Elmasri and Shamkant B Navathe. *Fundamentals of database systems.* Pearson, 2015.

[2] Paramita Mirza, Simon Razniewski, Fariz Darari, and Gerhard Weikum. Cardinal virtues: Extracting relation cardinalities from text. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1704.04455*, 2017.