



MLIS

Internship

Alternatives

**FACULTY OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, IGNOU**

Master of Library and Information Science

Term Paper: Master of Library and Information Science

Internship for students is an important component of the curriculum. It provides an opportunity to observe the working of a library and information centre. It helps the learners to apply their learning into the workplace. However, in situations where the learner does not have a library and information centre nearby or due to some unavoidable situations cannot undergo internship, s/he can opt for writing a term paper.

A term paper is a research/review paper written during a term of study and is generally evaluated to measure an academic achievement. It is an exercise to prepare you for undertaking research in the future and also writing a research paper.

The first step while working for a research paper is to decide on an area that depends on your interest and relevance. Scope, recency, issues in the field are some points that decide the relevance of the area chosen for the term paper. You may read recent articles in well-known journals to decide the area of the term paper. Once the area is chosen, the title needs to be formulated depending on the resources in terms of level of work, time available, and its appropriateness. You may have a draft title to be finalized after some time.

The next step is preparing a draft synopsis of the paper for which you need to have a conceptual clarity for which you may have to refer to a classic textbook, an encyclopedia that provides background information about the topic. After reading it, you may have clarity of the themes and sub-themes and also be able to map them. Later you may think of the problem on which you intend to work and write the statement of the problem. Then a decision on the objectives, scope, methodology, and analysis has to be taken. You may undertake a study in which you need to do a field survey or a literature survey. It depends on your interest, competence, and resources to decide which one to undertake.

Structure of the paper:

The format of the structure of the paper should tentatively be on the following lines:

- Introduction
- Statement of the Problem
- Research Questions
- Objectives
- Methodology (In the case of a literature based study indicate the method of literature collection. In the case of a field study indicate the data collection in terms of population, sample and sampling, and data analysis).
- Presentation/Results
- Conclusion
- References and Bibliography

You may prepare a term paper of about 5,000 words. Please note that your paper will be checked for plagiarism at the time of evaluation. It should not exceed a limit of 10%.

Evaluation:

Evaluation of the term paper will be done on the basis of your paper submitted (70%) and viva voce (30%).