Writing about empirical research: Writing process overview

Narrow the research area

Clarify the research question(s)/aim(s)

Plan / design the research project

Conduct the research

Analyse data and organise results

Outline text, write first draft

Reflect

Review / Feedback

Revise

Further research

Finalise layout, proofread

Generate ideas for your research project
Research existing literature:
• Categorise literature according to subject matter
• Identify gaps in the research

Formulate your research question(s)
Decide on a method: How will you address the research question(s)?

Plan and conduct your research;
Work with your results:
• View, sort and categorise results
• Present results in tables and graphs
→ How do they fit previous work and your research question?
Identify errors in your research
If necessary: Repeat experiments

Plan the structure of your text
Write the first draft
→ How do your results answer the research question?

Distance yourself from your text and critically reflect on your results and their presentation in your text

Ask for feedback concerning content and text: supervisors, peers and/or people outside the field

Further develop your approaches and arguments
Revise and improve the structure of your text

Edit your text with a focus on layout and formal text criteria (spelling, grammar, punctuation etc.).
Create final draft and submit your text