

To be in a position to write a successful introduction to an essay or to a report with adequate conceptualization of a thesis statement and plan and sufficient academic backing and academic referencing to respond to the requirements of writing techniques in France and in particular at Sciences Po Toulouse. This course is essential for all those who are not knowledgeable of the requirements of the style of writing in France and at Sciences Po in particular. The objective is to enable students to successfully complete the methodological writing requirements that will be needed for all other classes in written assignments.

Structure and writing skills are the key to successful completion of a course of study in France and students will be guided in the elaboration and development of how to formulate and put forward a *problématique* correctly with a plan. The importance of building a strong foundation in the conceptualization and operationalisation of research, with the need to take into account of how to design a project that is to be presented either orally or in written format will be dealt with in a hands-on approach through activities in small groups of students. We shall focus on the predominant emphasis that should be provided in the opening sentence of the introduction, the significance of the definition of the terms to define the framework and scope of the piece that is being written as well as need to back up arguments with critical academic research references.



“If it is important to you, you will find a way.
If not, you will find an excuse.”

Ryan Blair, American entrepreneur and author

Course content

- The structure of a French “dissertation”
- The problematic notion of *la problématique*
- Writing introductions
- Developing arguments
- Writing conclusions
- Transitions
- Vocabulary and set phrases for essay writing
- Writing references
- Bibliographies