



Introduction to a field of research by reading text examples

Brief description

This exercise is useful for preparing for academic reading and for gaining a deeper insight into your field of research. The exercise introduces various text genres that you will encounter and work on during the course.

Motivation and outcome

The purpose of the exercise is to make you aware that there are different text genres that call for different ways of reading. You will learn that it is natural to find some texts harder to read than others. For example, textbooks are written for students, whereas scientific articles target research communities, and this affects the difficulty of the texts. Working with texts at meta level will also provide you with new insights into the usefulness of different texts included in the course.

Perform the exercise

- All members of the study group are to bring different examples of text genres (in hard copy) included in the course syllabus. These could be excerpts from textbooks, a complete work, a scientific article, a communicative article, a ministerial order, etc.
- The study group will discuss differences between the different text genres listed in the syllabus based on the following questions:
 - Which genres are we reading?
 - Who is writing to whom?
 - What is the purpose of the different texts?
 - Sum up your discussion. Talk about the differences between the genres, and how these affect your reading.