Rechts- und Wirtschaftswissenschaftliche Fakultät der Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg

Fachbereich Wirtschafts- und Sozialwissenschaften

Juniorprofessur für Wirtschaftspsychologie (Prof. Dr. Lisa Handke)

Thesis Title

**Masterarbeit vorgelegt von**

**Vorname Nachname**

Abgabedatum: TT.MM.JJJJ

Betreuer\*in: XY

Anschrift

Straße Hausnr

PLZ Wohnort

Tel.:

Mail:

Studienfach: XY

Fachsemester: XY

Matr.-Nr.: XY

**Abstract**

The most important contents of your thesis are summarized here. This includes information on the background, the aim, the methods, the results of your work and possible conclusions.

*Keywords:* Here you enter the key terms of your paper

Requirements: The abstract should be 150-300 words long. For theses in English, a German abstract is required in addition to the English abstract.

**Title of the paper**

This is the introduction of your paper, which should be 1.5-2.5 pages long and which consists of 4-5 paragraphs that establish (1) the relevance of the topic, (2) higher-level summary of prior research, (3) the “problem” your thesis is trying to address (i.e., where is the research gap and why should we even care?), (4) your “solution” to this problem (what needs to be considered/looked at, and (5) how you plan do this in your thesis (through which kind of design etc.).

**Theoretical Background**

In this section, you should introduce the topic of your paper by defining terms and summarizing the state of current research (including previous studies). To do this, first give a rough overview before going into more detail on individual subtopics (the constructs/variables you are investigating in your paper). Each subtopic gets its own paragraph and at the end of each paragraph you should write your specific hypotheses that you want to test in your paper.

# Thematic Subsection 1

Here you write a continuous text for your subtopic.

Hypothesis 1 (H1):

# Thematic Subsection 2

Here you write a continuous text for your subtopic.

Hypothesis 2 (H2):

Hypothesis 3 (H3):

**Method**

In this section, you should explain your methodological approach. You should describe the sample, the course of the study, the measurement instruments used and your approach to statistical analysis in individual subsections.

The methods section should enable readers to reproduce your work.

For narrative literature reviews, no methodological information needs to be provided. If you are writing a systematic literature review, you should describe your specific approach here (e.g. search engines/databases used, search, inclusion and exclusion criteria). The other subsections are not relevant for you in this case.

# Participants and Procedure

In this section, you should describe the sample of your study. This includes the sample size and characteristics of the participants (e.g. age, gender, origin, level of education, specific illnesses etc.).

You should also explain the design and procedure of your study. This includes, for example, inclusion and exclusion criteria, allocation to experimental and control groups, pre- and post-measurement or previous pilot study. If you are conducting an experiment, you would also describe the task that you gave the participants here. To illustrate your approach (in addition to your text), you can use a flow chart or a path diagram, for example.

# Measures

In this section, you should name and describe the measuring instruments that you used for your thesis. If you only used part of a questionnaire or designed your own questionnaire, you should explain why you chose certain subscales or note individual example items. If certain findings regarding the quality criteria of the measuring instruments are already available, it is recommended to integrate these into the section with a corresponding reference to the source. You should also state the internal consistency you calculated (Cronbach's Alpha).

## *Coordination*

Example:

Coordination was measured using three items each, adopting items from Mathieu et al.’s (2020) team process survey measure (for an overview of the employed items, see O’Neill et al., 2020). An exemplary item is “Our team smoothly integrates our work efforts”. Items were rated on a five-point response scale ranging from 1 *(strongly disagree)* to 5 (*strongly agree)*. Team-level psychometric properties were ICC(1) = .27, ICC(2) = .58, median rwg(j)uniform = .98, median rwg(j)skewed = .97, α = .93.

# Analytical Procedure

In this section, you should describe which statistical methods you used to test your hypotheses and evaluate your data and which programs you used for this purpose (e.g. R-Studio or SPSS).

**Results**

In this section, you should present the results of your work. It makes sense to divide it into individual paragraphs in which you summarize the specific results of your individual questions/hypotheses. When reproducing the results, it is important that you always include the statistical parameters in brackets (e.g. t-value, p-value, F-value with degrees of freedom). Here are a few important rules that you should pay attention to when formulating your results section:

* Italic notation of Latin abbreviations and spaces between mathematical operators (e.g. N=154❌ vs. *N* = 154✅)
* Specify statistics with a range of values from 0 to 1 without a leading zero (e.g. *p* = 0.002 ❌ *p* = .002 ✅)
* Using a dot as a decimal separator and commas between statistics (e.g. *t*(123) = 4.32, *p* < .001)
* Always specify p-values exactly to three decimal places, unless the value is less than .001, then specify the value with the “less than” (<) sign: *p* = .000 ❌ *p* < .05 ❌ *p* < .001 ✅ *p* = .045 ✅

To present your results, it is helpful to use tables and figures. In these, you can mark significant relationships or effects with asterisks. \* for p < .05, \*\* for p < .01 and \*\*\* for p < .001 have become established. An explanation of these symbols belongs in the notes to the corresponding table/graphic. You can either present your tables and figures directly in the text or place them at the end of your thesis (after the references).

**Discussion**

In this section, you should briefly summarize the main results of your work. You should interpret these and place them in the research context.

The discussion also includes deriving theoretical and practical implications based on your study results. You should also critically reflect on the value of your work, present limitations and formulate recommendations for future research.

Please structure the discussion into the relevant subsections.

# Theoretical Implications

# Practical Implications

# Limitations and Direction for Future Research

**Conclusion**

Finally, you should write a conclusion in which you summarize the most important findings and implications of your work (roughly 0.5 pages).

**References**

In this section you should note the sources of all papers used. Please cite the literature according to APA 7 citation guidelines

Helpful sources for this:

* <https://apastyle.apa.org/>
* <https://www.scribbr.com/apa-style/format/>
* <https://purdueglobalwriting.center/apa-style-manuscript-guidelines/#:~:text=The%20text%20should%20align%20with,click%20of%20the%20Tab%20key>

Example bibliography:

Heckhausen, H. (1988). *Motivation und Handeln* (2. Aufl.). Berlin: Springer.

Dunnette, M. D. (Ed.). (1976). *Handbook of industrial and organizational psychology*. Chicago: Rand McNally.

Landau, K. & Rohmert, W. (1987). Aufgabenbezogene Analyse von Arbeitstätigkeiten. In U. Kleinbeck & J. Rutenfranz (Hrsg.), *Arbeitspsychologie* (Enzyklopädie der Psychologie D/III/1 S. 74-129). Göttingen: Hogrefe.

Schmidtke, H. & Schmale, H. (1962). Untersuchungen zur Genese des Anstrengungserlebnisses. *Psychologische Beiträge, 7*, 370-386.

**Appendix**

In this section you should present all additional materials (e.g. transcripts of interviews), figures, etc. that contribute to a better understanding of your work.