

# 9

## CONCLUDING AND WRITING UP



# Chapter Table of Contents

Writing a conclusion

Writing up

Writing an abstract and finalising the title

The final shape

General points about writing and presentation

## This chapter will help you figure out . . .

- Understand the conclusion is not a summary
- Synthesise your findings
- Reconcile your findings with those of others
- Appraise your work, noting strengths and weaknesses
- Look to the future

## For extra help, check out these other resources:

### Writing

Becker, H.S. (2008) *Writing for Social Scientists: How to Start and Finish Your Thesis, Book, or Article* (2nd revised edn). Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Excellent on writing, and how to communicate rather than sound clever. It rambles on a bit sometimes, but if you are really interested in developing your writing, particularly if you wish to pursue a career in the academy, it's invaluable.

Thomson, A. (2005) *Critical Reasoning: A Practical Introduction*. London: Routledge. See particularly Chapters 4 and 5 on writing and reasoning. Good especially on how to summarise.

Thomson, P. and Kamler, B. (2016) *Detox Your Writing: Strategies for Doctoral Researchers*. London: Routledge. Some helpful advice on writing for advanced work, especially on arguing, structuring, drafting and revising. Like Becker's advice, this is good also for more inexperienced writers.

Wolcott, H.E. (2009) *Writing Up Qualitative Research* (3rd edn). London: Sage. Does what it says on the tin, and Wolcott is a good writer to use as a model.

### Social media

Carrigan, M. (2016) *Social Media for Academics*. London: Sage. Good ideas on how to disseminate your work, but geared more to doctoral students and professional academics than undergraduate students.

Research Information Network (2011) *Social Media: A Guide for Researchers*. Leicester: RIN. Available at: [http://www.rin.ac.uk/system/files/attachments/social\\_media\\_guide\\_for\\_screen\\_0.pdf](http://www.rin.ac.uk/system/files/attachments/social_media_guide_for_screen_0.pdf) (accessed 14 October 2016). Some good advice on how to connect with others via social media.

Thomas, M. (2015) *Social Media Made Simple: How to Avoid Social Media Suicide* (4th edn). Compton: Appletree Publications. Mainly intended for businesses wishing to use social media for publicity and spreading the word. Useful, though, as a review and reminder of all that can be done to disseminate your work, and how social media can be used to communicate with like-minded people.

## CHAPTER 9 CHECKLIST

You may find it helpful to copy this table and write down the answers to the questions. Have you ...

	Notes	
1 ... written a conclusion based on the issues outlined in Table 9.1?		<input type="checkbox"/>
2 ... organised your work into chapters?		<input type="checkbox"/>
3 ... sketched out how your work will divide between the chapters?		<input type="checkbox"/>
4 ... decided, finally, on a title?		<input type="checkbox"/>
5 ... written an abstract?		<input type="checkbox"/>
6 ... got hold of your university department's regulations on referencing and presentation, and made sure you conform to them?		<input type="checkbox"/>