

The observations outlined here were prepared by the USP 187 TAs: Lydia, Saul and Matt, based upon reading 90 SRPs. We hope you find these points useful as you prepare the final version of your thesis.

- Proofreading...some were totally unacceptable. Will/Have recommend their friends read them.
- Abstract--these are still not updated for some people
- Introduction must be updated, simple changes such as tense, but the research question may have changed, so the paper needs to read as one comprehensive, consistent project
- Lit review--if there were not ten sources last fall, there should be by now
- Research Design--where did some of these go? And some of the notes we had, about being explicit about methods, addressing strengths and weaknesses, are not there.
- Analysis--everyone needs to work on this. Data was supposed to be collected. Life happens, of course. But that is when you go with the B-plan. So everyone should have had enough to analyze, and that analysis should have been very thorough. More graphs, tables, charts, maps, etc. Also--if you can't read the figure when you print it out, it must be re-done.
- The analysis should not read like a transcript of an interview or several/many transcripts of interviews. It is also not a step-by-step telling of a story about who you talked to first and what they told you, who second, third, etc.
- Also, everyone needs some sort of summary table of results--very easy to express what you've done to the reader. Most of them also need to make their main findings clearer throughout. They should be summarizing their findings in a short paragraph (and the table) at the beginning of the results and analysis section