



# SIMA-SIM-BAM

## SCHOOL OF RESEARCH METHODS

### Winter Edition: *Academic Writing*

4th-6th February 2026  
Palazzo delle Arti "Beltrani"  
Trani (BT)



## TEACHING FACULTY

### WORDS OF THEORY: WRITING THE INTRO AND THEORY SECTIONS OF INTERPRETIVE PAPERS

**Prof. Domen Bajde**, *University of Southern Denmark*

Developing a strong introduction and theory section is a key goal in academic writing and an obligatory passage point of any journey towards successful publication. However, even experienced researchers often find this task to be daunting, all the more so when faced with editors and reviewers calling for significant improvements in the paper's theoretical positioning and contributions. The session will unpack the significance and purpose of the introduction and theory sections in interpretive research, and how they are shaped by the different types and styles of theorizing. We will discuss common problems in writing these opening sections of the paper and the ways to overcome them. The session will also touch on the opportunities and challenges of writing conceptual papers steeped in theory and theorizing.



### HOW TO WRITE METHODS AND FINDINGS OF INTERPRETIVE PAPERS

**Prof. Silvia Biraghi**, *Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore*

One of the greatest challenges in qualitative research lies in how to write up your findings in a way that does justice to the richness and complexity of field experience while ensuring a rigorous and "reviewer-proof" theoretical contribution. In this session, we will explore how to transform qualitative data into a compelling and cohesive narrative. Together, we will discuss how to illustrate and justify the context of your study; present your methodological choices and procedures transparently, identify and articulate the storyline that structures your findings, deploy qualitative data as evidence that supports your analytical claims, display and visualize qualitative insights across different research outputs to strengthen the communicative power of your findings. The session combines conceptual reflection with hands-on methodological guidance, offering participants practical tools and examples to bridge interpretive richness and analytical rigor.





## HOW TO WRITE THE FRONT END OF QUANTITATIVE PAPERS

**Prof. Claudio Giachetti**, *Università di Bologna*

In this session, we will explore how to write the “front end” of a research paper, guiding participants through the critical steps from topic selection to hypothesis development. We will begin by discussing how to identify a meaningful and researchable topic that balances academic relevance with practical significance. Next, we will examine how to build a strong theoretical foundation, connecting existing literature to the research questions and highlighting gaps the study can address. We will then focus on crafting a clear and compelling introduction that frames the problem, justifies the study, emphasizes its contribution, and leads naturally to well-formulated hypotheses. By the end of the session, participants will have a structured approach to starting a research project, understanding how to connect topic choice, theory development, and hypotheses in a coherent and impactful way.

## HOW TO WRITE METHOD AND FINDINGS OF QUANTITATIVE PAPERS

**Prof. Marco Visentin**, *Università di Bologna*

In this talk, I will outline best practices for writing the methodological and results sections of a quantitative research paper. I will focus on the logical structure of the empirical workflow and on the importance of thoroughly documenting each analytical choice—enabling external scholars to fully reproduce the process, from data collection to the presentation of findings. I will discuss how to articulate the link between the research question, individual hypotheses, and the analytical representation of the model. The session will cover key considerations when reporting analyses based on GLM-family models (linear, logit, Poisson/negative binomial), structural equation models, language models (LLMs), machine-learning algorithms, and the use of simulations and predictive analyses. I will also address how to present empirical results in a way that is consistent with the theoretical background guiding the study and that clearly communicates whether the data support or challenge the proposed hypotheses.



## HOW TO WRITE A THEORY-BUILDING DISCUSSION

**Prof. Emily Yarrow**, *Newcastle University Business School*

In this session we will explore the importance of theory-building in research papers for advancing knowledge in the field, how to situate findings within existing theories in order to contribute new theoretical insights, alongside the process of writing the discussion section with a focus on theory-building. The main aim is to enable participants to feel more confident in developing, positioning, and understanding the role of theory, together with the significance of a literature review in theory building, and writing a theory-building discussion of a paper.

## TARGET

- Junior researchers (rtd a) and Senior Research (rtd b)
- PhD students
- Post-doctoral researchers
- Research assistants
- Master students

Number of participants: 30

First booked, first served

## WHERE

**Palazzo delle Arti “Beltrani” – Via Giovanni Beltrani 51 – 76125 Trani (BT)**

## FEES

Include School, lunches and dinners.

	Early bird (no later than January 12th, 2026)	Regular (January 13 <sup>th</sup> -January 31st, 2026)
<b>SIMA-SIM-BAM Member</b>	440	480
<b>Non-SIMA-SIM-BAM Member*</b>	560	600

\*for those who are non-SIMA-SIM-BAM members, the fee includes also the registration to the scientific associations SIMA SIM AIDEA and BAM

**TRAVEL AND ACCOMODATION: NOT included**

## SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Rossella Chiara Gambetti, *Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore*

Maurizio La Rocca, *Università della Calabria*

Matilde Milanese, *Università degli Studi di Firenze*

Luca Petruzzellis, *Università degli Studi di Bari*

## CONTACTS

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