



Teknik Penulisan Ilmiah untuk Jurnal Internasional Bereputasi

Dr. Indri Dwi Apriliyanti

Departemen Manajemen dan Kebijakan Publik
Fakultas Ilmu Sosial dan Ilmu Politik
Universitas Gadjah Mada

www.ugm.ac.id

Locally Rooted, Globally Respected



UNIVERSITAS GADJAH MADA

1



Current position

- 2014-present: Assistant professor in Department of Public Policy and Management, FISIPOL UGM
- 2025-2029: Senior Research Fellow, Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI), Norway
- 2019-present: Journal Editor, Scopus-indexed journal
- 2017-present: Peer Reviewer for various Q1 academic journals
- Actively engaged in multi-country research collaborations with academic partners from the US, Denmark, Norway, Australia, Singapore, and Germany

www.ugm.ac.id

Locally Rooted, Globally Respected



UNIVERSITAS GADJAH MADA

2

■ Major challenges and stumbling blocks researchers face during the research and literature review process:

- Overly broad focus: Starting with a broad idea or theme without narrowing it down, leading to a lack of direction and difficulty in identifying the study's precise positioning within existing scholarship.
- Case-driven but topicless approach: Relying on a case study as the starting point and searching literature. This often results in limited relevant findings, not necessarily due to the absence of a research gap, but because of a narrow search strategy or confirmation bias.



Introduction to basic research

Differences in definitions amongst phenomenon, topic, and case



Phenomenon: General idea of the situation

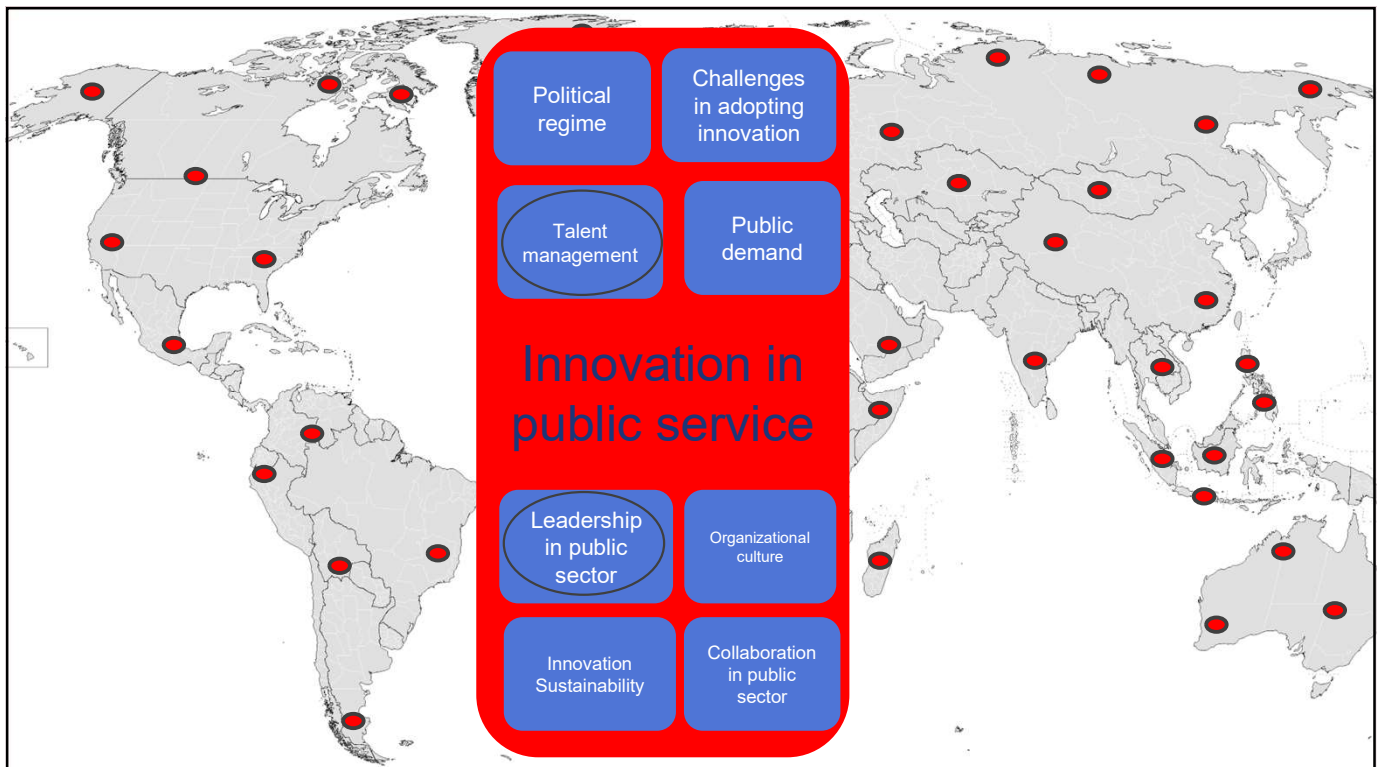


Topic: A key element of the phenomenon selected for academic analysis



Case: An event that represents the phenomenon that we want to study

5



6



But is it enough?

- It's not enough to identify the phenomenon and topic; you need to narrow it down.
- What exactly do you want to study?

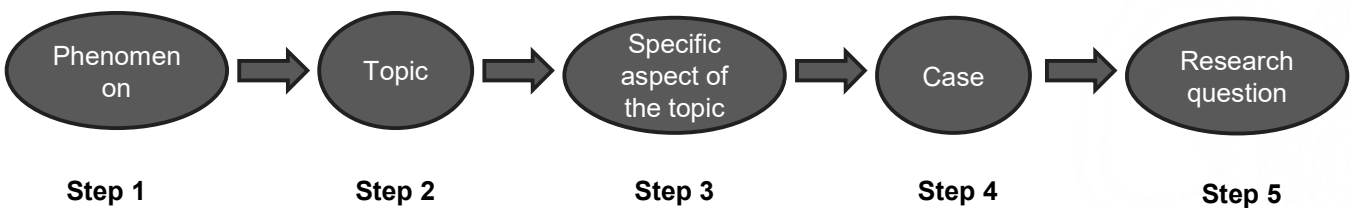
www.ugm.ac.id

Locally Rooted, Globally Respected



UNIVERSITAS GADJAH MADA

7



Cascading model: A systematic approach to develop research ideas

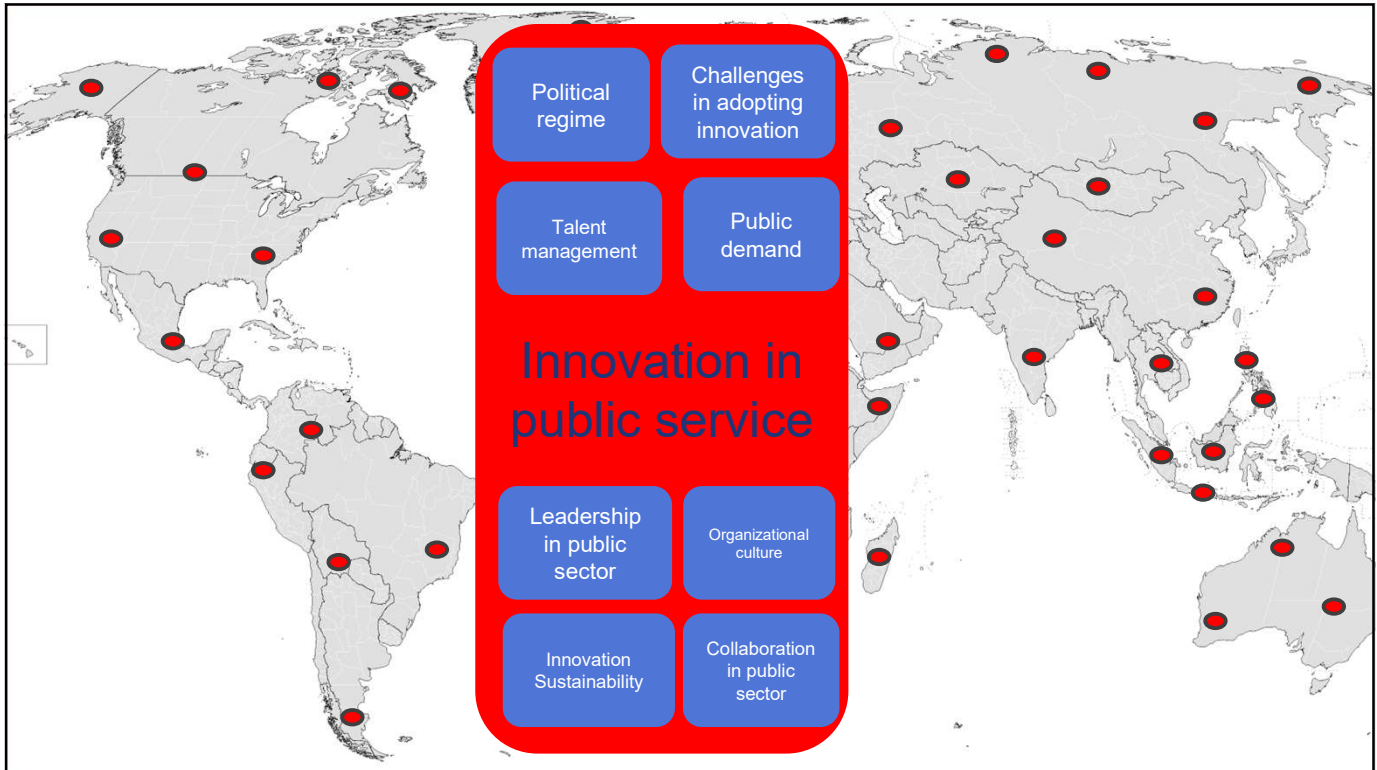
www.ugm.ac.id

Locally Rooted, Globally Respected



UNIVERSITAS GADJAH MADA

8



9

Topic: political regime

Populist leadership and innovation policies in public service

Authoritarian regimes and top-down innovation models

Election cycles and their effect on short-termism in innovation policies

Regime type and tolerance for experimentation in public sector reforms

10



Phenomenon: Inovasi dalam pelayanan publik



Topic: Rezim politik dan inovasi



Specific aspect of the topic: Siklus pemilu dan dampaknya terhadap kecenderungan jangka pendek dalam kebijakan inovasi



Case: Program inovasi yang diluncurkan oleh kepala daerah petahana (incumbent) di Indonesia pada tahun terakhir masa jabatannya



RQ: Bagaimana tekanan menjelang pemilu memengaruhi pilihan antara inovasi yang bersifat simbolik dan reformasi institusional di pemerintahan daerah Indonesia?

The importance of identifying specific aspect of the topic for literature review


01

Pushing us to engage our study to broader studies in our area

- Helping us to do thorough literature review

02

Knowing the position of our study amidst other studies (what novelty we offer to our audiences?)



Kunci melakukan penelitian dan penulisan ilmiah

- Tertib berpikir
- Berpikir secara sistematis dan spesifik

www.ugm.ac.id Locally Rooted, Globally Respected UNIVERSITAS GADJAH MADA

13



Trend of the topic and literature review

www.ugm.ac.id Locally Rooted, Globally Respected UNIVERSITAS GADJAH MADA

14

Trend of the topic: Social innovation

2008-2011

- **Why does social innovation occur?** When a system fails, and authorities are hesitant to act; other stakeholders undertake joint

2012-2014

- **Who were involved in the creation of social innovation?** Relatively few relevant stakeholders were involved in the initial stage of problem analysis and the development of solutions.

2015-2017

- **The role of mobilization and the use of social media in progressing social innovation:** Initiators are capable of setting things in motion that along the way create an ever-growing consensus, for instance by mobilizing media attention (*consensus*)

2018-2020

- **The qualities of leader in social innovation collaborative project:** A leading initiator is capable of mobilizing, inspiring and creating synergy or direction (*leadership*).

2021-2023

- **Does social innovation occur in unstable area/region?** They are able to conquer resistance, largely due to being capable of mobilizing relevant stakeholders

Finding the research gaps

Identifying a research gap

- Identifying an area or issue that has not been adequately addressed in the existing literature
- Gaps can be related to **methodology**, **context**, **empirical**, or **content**.

Different types of research gaps

01

Theoretical gap

A well-known phenomenon with the absence of theory (non-existent) or under-developed theory.

02

Phenomenon gap

- 1) New perspective to challenge the established view/thesis
- 2) When a phenomenon is not thoroughly examined

03

Knowledge gap

A research question that has not been answered appropriately (new or different method, sampling technique, unit of analysis lead to new empirical data)

04

Empirical gap

Empirical context (area; or type of organization).

Research gap in a topic of big data analysis in public sector

Macro: Benefits of big data analysis in government/other sectors

Meso: Barriers and challenges when applying big data analysis in public sector organization

Micro: Impacts of big data analysis on service delivery, in terms of transparency, and accountability

Big Data Analysis

Aspects that are underexplored:

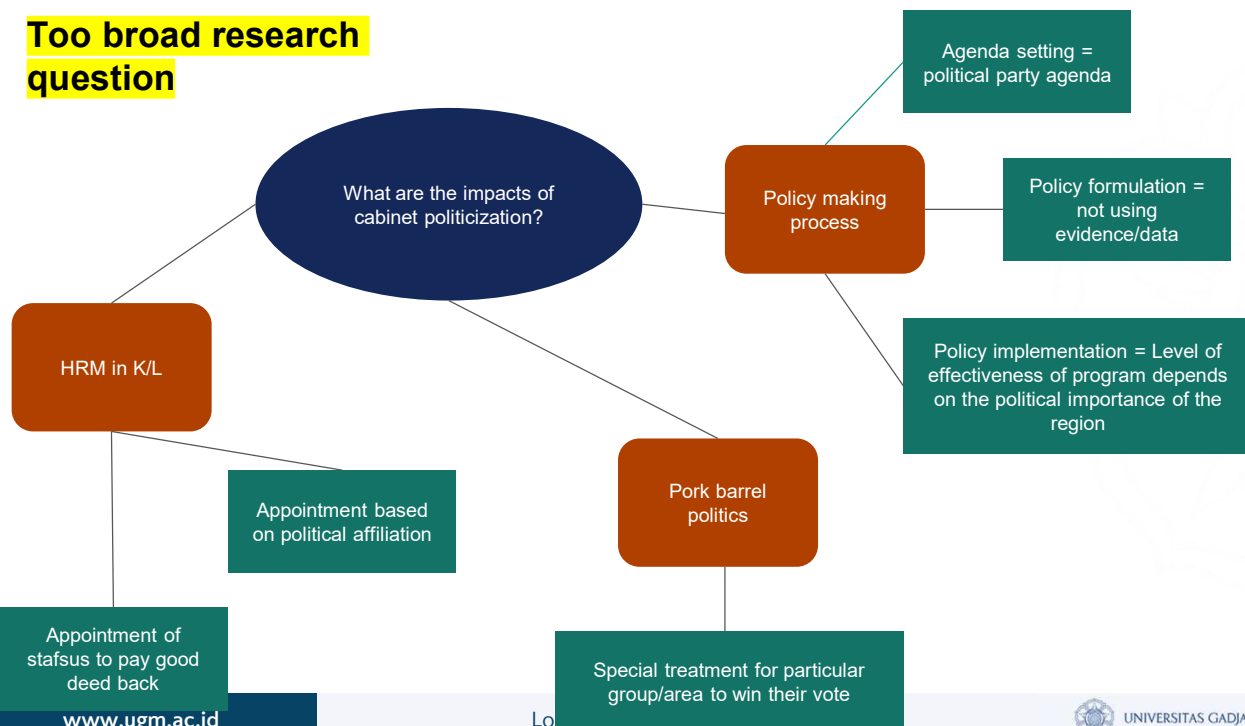
- Macro: Big data analytic and democracy (How the use of big data analytic impacts the quality democracy or civic freedom?)
- Meso: Big data sustainability (How to make the use of big data sustain?)
- Micro: What are the privacy concerns and ethical considerations surrounding the collection and use of big data by governments to enhance citizen engagement, and how do these concerns impact the willingness of citizens to engage with government initiatives?

Forming a Research Question

Poor research question(s)

- **Too broad** (unaffordable extensive topic, each question may require different research design)
 - What are the implications of crisis communication strategy of the president?
 - What are all the factors influencing global climate change?
- **Too narrow** (answerable with a simple “yes” or “no”)
 - Are people happy or unhappy with the new healthcare policy?
 - Are students satisfied with online learning?
- **Too easy to answer - don't state the obvious** (common people already know the answer)
 - Does corruption negatively impact public trust?
 - Does poverty make access to healthcare more difficult?
 - What are the reasons for the failure of disaster management policy?

Too broad research question



■ Poor research question(s)

- **Not analytical–too descriptive**
 - What public policies support MSMEs in Indonesia?
 - What campaigns has the government launched to reduce plastic waste?
 - the eligibility criteria for a specific government welfare program?

Forming a Research Question

- The research question defines the focus and direction of your study. It should be:
 - **Specific** (avoid overly broad questions)
 - **Analytical** (allows you to produce a deep analysis of an issue)
 - Often begin with **how** and **why** rather than **what**.
 - If **what** is used, it is essential to frame the 'what' question in a manner that prompts deeper analysis and exploration of underlying causes, mechanisms, or implications.
 - **Researchable** (make sure the question can be answered with data)

Poor research questions	Stronger research questions
What are the implications of crisis communication strategy of the president?	How does the president's crisis communication strategy during natural disasters influence public perception of government competence and responsiveness?
What are all the factors influencing global climate change?	How have coal industry elites influenced Indonesia's energy policy design and limited its alignment with international climate commitments since the Paris Agreement?
Are people happy or unhappy with the new healthcare policy?	How do income levels and regional disparities shape public satisfaction with the implementation of the 2023 healthcare reform in Indonesia?
Does corruption negatively impact public trust?	How does the framing of corruption as a systemic issue versus individual misconduct affect political trust among young voters in urban Indonesia?
What campaigns has the government launched to reduce plastic waste?	How do government plastic waste campaigns differ in their framing of responsibility (state vs. individual), and how does this affect public engagement?

Examples of the use of “what”

- Topic: Collaborative governance in community-based tourism
- Sub-topic: Conflict between stakeholders
- Research questions:
 - What role do cultural differences and competing interests play in exacerbating conflicts between stakeholders in community-based tourism projects?
 - What strategies and mechanisms are employed to manage and resolve conflicts between stakeholders in community-based tourism governance processes?
 - What are the long-term implications of unresolved conflicts among stakeholders for the sustainability and effectiveness of community-based tourism initiatives?

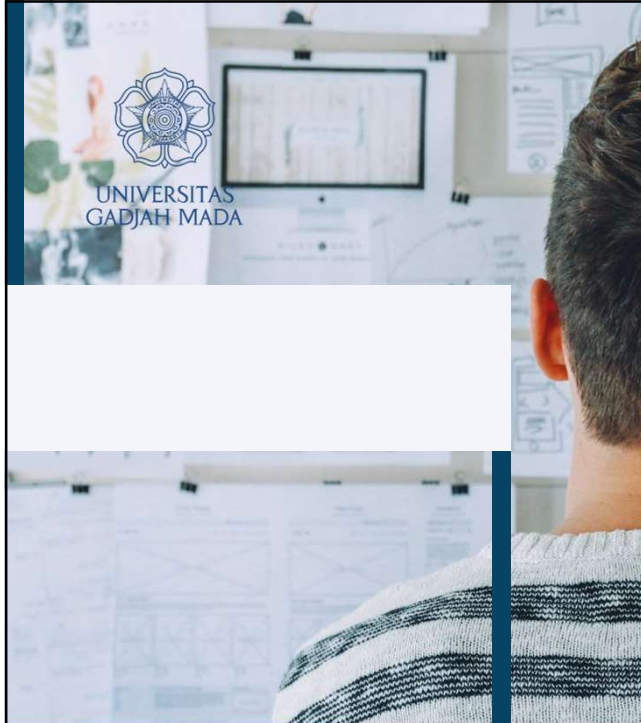
■ My experience as a Scopus journal editor and reviewer (Q1)

Most common reasons for rejections

- Lack of clarity or scope problems – Usually too broad; sometimes too narrow
- Lack of contribution - Not “joining the conversation” or weak connections to existing literature, not articulating a research gap
- Lacks a clear and coherent theoretical foundation
- Descriptive and shallow discussion
 - The paper should situate findings within key academic debates, identify patterns or unexpected results, explain how and why the findings matter, reflect on the broader theoretical or practical implications
- Making vague or generic claims of contribution without showing how the findings challenge, refine, or extend existing theories or empirical work
- Better fit for a different journal

■ Position yourself as a reviewer

- What are the most intriguing aspects of the paper?
- Give me 3 reasons that you would reject the paper?
- If I needed to cut 40% of the paper, what should I leave out?



Thank you!

www.ugm.ac.id

Locally Rooted, Globally Respected



UNIVERSITAS GADJAH MADA