If terrorism needs to be defined under criminal law, it should only be done by listing concrete punishable terrorist acts; any definition that attempts to be more general will necessarily be too broad to comply with the principle of clarity and certainty of criminal law (*Bestimmtheitsgebot*).

*This Thesis*

II.

It is a misconception to believe that certain religions are the main cause of terrorism; in general it is not a particular religion or ideology that calls for terrorist actions, but the fanatic and militant interpretation of it. In this sense, terrorists may well use a religion or ideology to justify their actions. However, their original terrorist motivation does not derive from the religion or ideology itself, but from other - situational - factors (e.g. a situation of social injustice).

*This Thesis*

III.

State terrorism has, in general, the potential to do more harm to a population than terrorism committed by non-state actors, as states, in general, possess more power than single individuals or groups. Consequently, the priority must be the prevention of state terrorism (by forbidding its preconditions), rather than the combat of non-state terrorism (which historically has proven to often set the preconditions for state terrorism).

*This Thesis*

IV.

Governments show a growing interest in undermining human rights in the name of fighting terror; but there is hope in the judiciary, which is increasingly worried about human rights and more and more determined to quash laws that jeopardize human rights.

*This Thesis*

V.

The procedural rights of a suspect should not be undermined because of the gravity of the crime of which he is being accused; quite the contrary, in view of the strong accusation and the severe legal consequences the suspect may face in case of a conviction, the prosecuting authorities have an accordingly higher responsibility also towards the suspect to guarantee him a fair trial.

*This Thesis*

VI.

Those who would give up essential liberty to purchase a little temporary safety, deserve neither liberty nor safety.  
*Benjamin Franklin – An Historical Review of the Constitution and Government of Pennsylvania* (1759)

VII.

L'ignorance, l'oubli ou le mépris des droits de l'homme sont les seules causes des malheurs publics et de la corruption des gouvernements.  
(The ignorance, neglect, or contempt of the rights of man are the sole cause of public calamities and of the corruption of governments.)

*from the Declaration of the Rights of the Man (1789), Preamble*

VIII.

Existing rules and principles can give us our present location, our bearings, our latitude and longitude. The inn that shelters for the night is not the journey's end. The law, like the traveller, must be ready for the morrow. It must have a principle of growth.  
*Benjamin Nathan Cardozo – The Growth of Law* (1924)

IX.

If you are afraid of falling, you will never grow. This particularly applies to snowboarding.

X.

Perfectionism and finishing a PhD are not compatible.