

Format for Lab Writeups

Purpose: To show you what I expect you for lab writeups. Each of you will turn in a writeup and they will generally be between 2-6 pages (not counting Figures). Use a font like Times and hand this in on time and stapled together. Generally labs will be due at the beginning of the next week's lab period.

The following is the basic outline that I expect to see each time.

Introduction: What is the purpose of the lab and few paragraphs will do the job.

Background: Here you will cite any studies that are relevant to the exercise, location maps and previous studies.

Procedure: What data and techniques (methods) are you using to accomplish the purpose. Outline the steps used.

Observations & Results: Presentation of results in the form of graphs, tables, photos.

Discussion: The discussion section is the most important part of any lab. Here you will put the observations and results into a context. What do they mean, what further questions might you have, do you trust the results?

Conclusion: Here you cite the important results that are discussed above. Nothing new is presented here.