

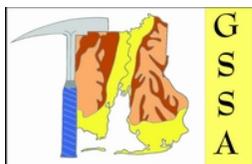
GY 402 Sedimentary Petrology (W)
GSSA Writing Assignment One
Dissecting Components of a Scientific Paper

Your Task: This first writing assignment will be very simple, if you have every had any scientific writing experience in the past. Most of you should have already taken GY 304-Stratigraphy (which is now a prerequisite for GY 402), so you should be familiar with the make up of a scientific paper (AKA term paper). So what exactly is your task today? I would like you to compare and contrast the abstract, introduction and conclusions sections of a typical scientific paper. This does not mean that you actually give me examples of these components. That will come soon enough. In this assignment, I want you to tell me what the structure, purpose and format is (or should be) for an abstract, an introduction and the conclusions of a paper. All three are somewhat similar, but they are more different than they are alike, hence the question.

Your answer should not exceed one page (typed, double spaced, 12 pitch Times Roman font). Typical quality answers will be between ½ and 1 page in length. The assignment is redoable; that means that you can resubmit it for revised credit after a “first draft”. The maximum mark up that you can receive in a revised grade is +10% of your initial grade. If your first draft received a grade of 65%, the best you can do in the revision is 75% *even if your revision is absolutely fraking* perfect*. Do the best job you can the first time around.

Due date/Revision date: refer to the due dates page on the website/calendar.

* Okay I’m a science fiction geek, but you must admit that *Battlestar Galactica* introduced a lot of neat new words to the English language.



Geological Survey of South Alabama

Incorporated 2007

Director: William F. Brokhourse Ph.D

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Dr. William F. Brokhourse,
Director, GSSA
337 Life Sciences Building
Mobile, AL 36688-0002

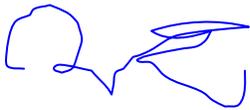
Dear Dr. Brokhourse,

Attached please find my report summarizing the most important aspects of scientific publications. The majority of this information was derived from my background knowledge, but I also consulted one internet site:

Anonymous, 2009. Recommended components for technical research papers. STEM Education Outreach Programs, University of New Mexico, website, <http://stemed.unm.edu/TechPapers.aspx> (accessed August 12, 2009)

Please let me know if you have any questions about the attachment.

Sincerely,



William I. Snugglebunny
Geologist in Training