**4-6-22 How to write Laboratory Reports-Website**

Writing Laboratory Reports

[Laboratory Report - Writing as an Engineer or Scientist (craftofscientificwriting.com)](https://www.craftofscientificwriting.com/laboratory-reports.html)

Laboratory reports are written for several reasons. One reason is to communicate the laboratory work to management. In such situations, management often bases company decisions on the results of the report. Another reason to write laboratory reports is to archive the work so that the work will not have to be done in the future. This web page presents a commonly used organization for laboratory reports:

Title and Abstract,  
Introduction,  
Procedures,  
Results and Discussion,  
Conclusions, and  
Appendices.  
  
        You should not assume, though, that this organization will serve all your laboratory reports. In other words, one organization does not "fit" all experiments. Rather, you should pay attention to the organization requested by your instructor who has chosen an organization that best serves your audience and experiments.

----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Hello, Melissa—

I agree with Jordan that exposing students to a variety of options is valuable. For writing reports, a free web resource for your students exists at  
[https://www.craftofscientificwriting.com/laboratory-reports.html](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.craftofscientificwriting.com%2Flaboratory-reports.html&data=04%7C01%7Cdwsunal%40ua.edu%7Cccee10e35e0b4ec6e9a908da0aad30fa%7C2a00728ef0d040b4a4e8ce433f3fbca7%7C0%7C0%7C637834036217265852%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=2zQtkeRVpjidZYnniK34JEmRIjiOaoFadnqggcTBKEI%3D&reserved=0)

You can assign the films, samples, and Kahoots that best serve your course.

Michael Alley

Teaching Professor, Engineering Communication

Pennsylvania State University

[http://www.assertion-evidence.com/](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.assertion-evidence.com%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cdwsunal%40ua.edu%7Cccee10e35e0b4ec6e9a908da0aad30fa%7C2a00728ef0d040b4a4e8ce433f3fbca7%7C0%7C0%7C637834036217265852%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=HBwh4dyBvhJXWIOTE28QRJRv3FODOtLFUKbAKbMOw2E%3D&reserved=0)

[http://www.craftofscientificwriting.com/](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.craftofscientificwriting.com%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cdwsunal%40ua.edu%7Cccee10e35e0b4ec6e9a908da0aad30fa%7C2a00728ef0d040b4a4e8ce433f3fbca7%7C0%7C0%7C637834036217265852%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=JieDnoaUcGB%2F5ZL7tRFjuspiup9JJcsldNQri7F9SI8%3D&reserved=0)

At my university, we use lab manuals that students write in and submit in some classes, in other classes students use a lab manual or lab handout, but also have to write formal lab reports.  If you wanted to prepare students well I'd say expose them to all of these options at least a little bit.

**Jordan D. Smith, M.A.Sci.Ed.**

Teacher of Natural Sciences, St. Patrick Catholic School

On Sun, Mar 20, 2022 at 11:36 AM Melissa Bayer <[melissabayer13@gmail.com](mailto:melissabayer13@gmail.com)> wrote:

Hi AP Chemistry teachers,

I was just curious what you had students complete for labs. Do you use lab handouts that students answer questions on/do calculations, do you have students type up lab reports on word/excel, do you have students write lab reports in composition lab notebooks or do you do a combination of things? I'm just trying to figure out what is best in preparing students for college.

Thanks,

Melissa