

What is the purpose of academic writing?

- Who reads academic writing? Why?
- Who writes academic papers?
 - What (kind of) information do writers communicate?
 - If academic writing is about argument, what is the writer's goal?
- How do audience & purpose effect content & style?

What is the purpose of academic writing?

- Have a thesis statement / claim / research conclusion / main finding
- Convince readers it is true / worthwhile / reasonable / an advance
 - Make a logical argument.
 - Support it with evidence.
- Focus on science等, not yourself

How do I get there?

- READ and UNDERSTAND work in your field.
 - Understand the conclusion (thesis).
 - Think critically about the argument.
- Before you write, THINK about what you know and why it matters to your audience.

Major Assignment 1

- Select a published paper in your field.
- Analyze *how* it communicates.
 - What is the conclusion?
 - What is the argument? the data?
 - What are the paper's strengths? weaknesses?
- Give a 10 minute oral presentation.