

# Basic Research Paper Outline Template

(To save a copy to yourself please "Save as outline" or "Save into a copy" (if available))

## 1. Introduction

- a. Hook
- b. Research Question
- c. Thesis Statement

## 2. Body Paragraphs

- a. Context and History of Research Topic
- b. Existing Arguments
  - i. First argument
    1. citation
    2. citation
  - ii. Second argument
    1. citation
    2. citation
  - iii. etc.
- c. Your Argument
  - i. First argument
    1. citation
    2. citation
  - ii. Second argument
    1. citation
    2. citation
    3. etc.

## 3. Conclusion

- a. Summary of main points
  - i. Point 1
  - ii. Point 2
  - iii. etc.
- b. Answer: why does this research matter?

\*Note there is no set number of body paragraphs in a research paper. Just make sure to clearly connect your ideas from one to the next using transitions.