

# **STRUCTURING YOUR SCIE 113 TERM PROJECT**

## **Dividing into sections**

For a document as long as the project, I would consider dividing it up into sections with headings. The “development” at the beginning would then be essentially a guide to the sections. There could be one section for each of your reasons, for example. Or it might be natural to group together a claim and several related reasons within a section. The section headings provide “signposts” helping the reader navigate the document.

## **Within sections**

Each section then has its own opening thesis statement and its own development, outlining the argument within the section. If a section corresponds to a reason, the section paragraphs would organize the various pieces of evidence for that reason. In this case, the opening thesis of the section would describe the reason in a bit more detail than the heading, and the development would summarize the pieces of evidence you will discuss for that reason.

## **Hierarchical use of the writing ideas in SCIE 113**

Following the above advice is essential structuring each section more or less like a unit-writing essay, with a “super thesis / development” on top. The abstract also signals the top-level structure, and there will often be considerable overlap between the abstract and the introductory “super thesis / development”.

## **Background**

If your topic is specialized, it will be useful to have a short initial section giving some background. For example, if I wrote a project summarizing the research on the best way to teach a course like SCIE 113, it would be helpful to most readers to describe briefly the learning goals of the course first.

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