

Report Format and Organization

• Abstract Example:

A nonlinear finite element procedure for the pre- and postbuckling analysis of thin-walled box-section beam-columns is presented. The influence of local plate buckling upon the overall ultimate buckling behavior of the member is incorporated in the analysis by adopting a set of modified-stress – versus – strain curves for axially loaded plates. Factors such as residual stresses, associated with hot-rolled and cold-formed sections, and initial geometrical imperfections are Accounted for in the analysis. A number of examples are presented to demonstrate the accuracy and efficiency of the method. From "Elasto-Plastic Analysis of Box-Beam-Columns Including Local Buckling Effects" in *Journal of Structural Engineering*.

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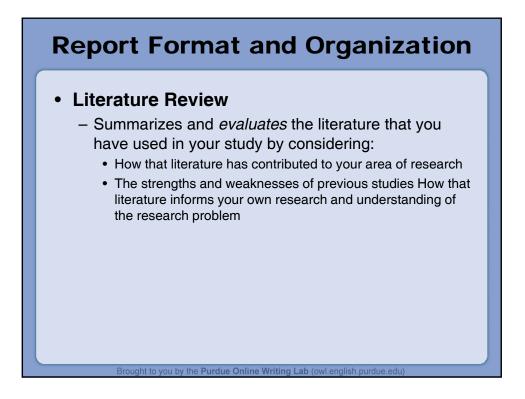
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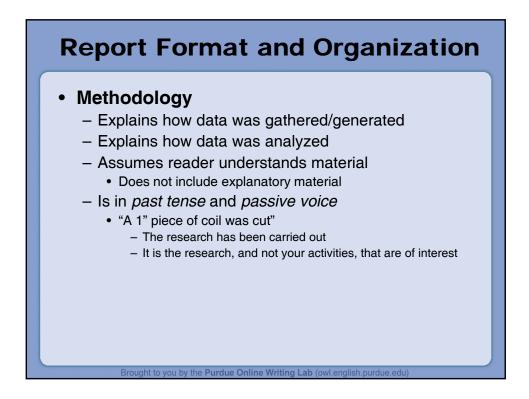
Background/Introduction

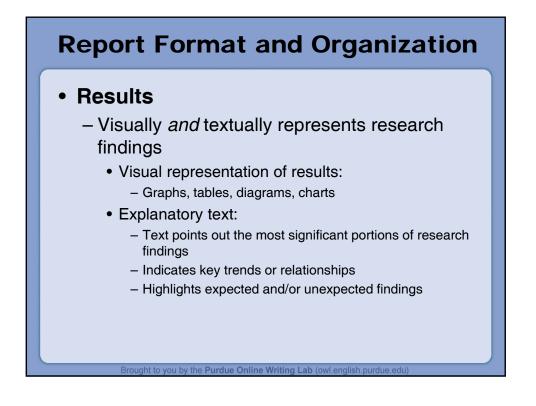
- Explains the research problem and its context
 - Explains importance of the problem (Why does it matter? Why is more information needed?)
 - · Explains reason and goals for study
 - Explains the limitations of the research performed

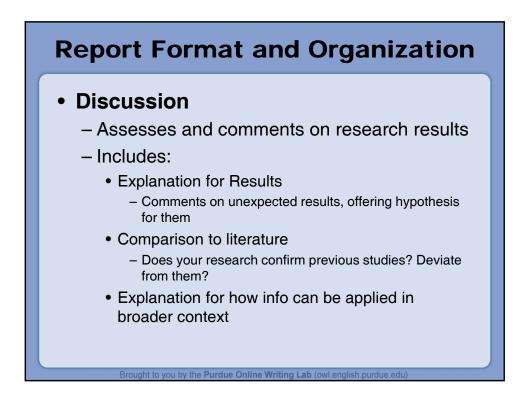
You want your reader to fully understand the significance of your research

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Summary

- Discusses:
 - What was learned through research
 - What remains to be learned
 - · Weaknesses and shortcomings of study

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- Strengths of study
- Possible applications of study (how it can be used)
- Recommendations

Organizational Considerations

 Your audience, purpose, and contents should influence your report organization and format

 Example: your professor may have very specific guidelines

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Carefully consider your decisions

