

Writing a Laboratory Report

Medical Instrumentation BME 489 Biomedical Instrumentation

Purpose: Most industrial companies and scientific communities use a standard when summarizing their scientific or design results. Thus as experience, use the following format which is customary for scientific journals to depict the findings of your experiment. There should be 1 report per group

1. Abstract = Summary of entire paper in approximately one paragraph. One sentence for each introduction, methods, results, discussion, and conclusion. I think of an abstract as what are the vital points you want a reader to take away even if they never read the rest of the article (this is the last section I typically write)
2. Introduction = Sets the stage for what you will be discussing. What are you looking to solve, why is it important, what have other investigators done.
3. Methodology = Explanation of how you conducted your experiment. This discusses the type of equipment used as well as the procedure or how you acquired your data.
4. Results = During the lab, you were asked to measure several parameters. Depict those parameters in the results section.
5. Discussion = What do your results mean. This is the section where you should answer the questions at the end of the lab report. Please make sure you number questions to facilitate grading.
6. Conclusion = Typically one paragraph highlighting the key conclusions you found in the study.
7. References = List any references you may have used to help you answer the questions.
8. Working in Teams = It is an important element of this course that students learn to work in teams. List each role that each member of the team had. For example who recorded data, who wrote the methodology section, who built the circuit etc.

Laboratory Papers are due one week after the completion of the lab unless otherwise specified. No late assignments will be accepted. If you cannot finish the lab you can try and finish it on your own time.