

Major Assignment #2: Summary and Abstract

For this assignment, you will be responsible for summarizing and translating a technical article into a **one-page summary** for a lay audience and for writing a **brief abstract (100-150 words)** for other professionals in your field that might be interested in reading the entire article.

Context & Audience

Envision that you are a student research assistant with the group that performed the study and wrote the article. You have been tasked with writing a brief abstract of the article that will appear in various online databases and indexes. Experts and professionals researching in the field will come across this abstract and use it to determine whether it is relevant to the work they are doing. In addition, your research group wants to post a summary of the article on a website that highlights various projects that are taking place at the university. This is a public site that is frequented by alumni, current and prospective students, and faculty from a variety of fields. This means the one-page summary must be written with the general public or a lay audience in mind.

Purpose

The purpose of this assignment is to practice writing for a variety of audiences and to work on your use of summary, language, and style.

Format

Make sure to label the appropriate sections as “Summary” and “Abstract.” Remember that your summary for the general public should fit on one page and more or less fill it (**approx. 250-300 words**). The abstract is for a technical or expert audience and must be **100-150 words (no more)**.

You will turn in a two-page document, with each page having the relevant heading (page 1 will be titled “Summary” and page 2 will be titled “Abstract”).

Use 1” margins, typed, 12 pt Times New Roman font, single-space.