Parts of a Research Article

**Title and author information** - The title of the article, the authors' names, and the authors' addresses are usually the first prominent parts of the article. The authors' addresses are provided to show their affiliation with a particular research institution and allow other scientists to contact them regarding their research. One author may be indicated as the one to whom correspondence concerning the article should be addressed.

**Abstract** - The abstract is a paragraph summarizing the content of the article. It usually appears at the beginning of the article. You may want to read the abstract first to see if the article will be useful to your research.

**Introduction** - The introduction presents the research question being asked. It explains the context of the research and often discusses previous work that was done on the topic.

**Methods** - The Methods section (sometimes called Materials and Methods, or Methodology) discusses how the research was conducted. It explains what materials were used and what procedures were followed to perform an experiment or field study.

**Results** - The results of the research are presented in this section. They are often presented in a table or chart format and show statistical calculations performed on the data.

**Discussion** - In the discussion section (sometimes followed by a separate section called Conclusions), the authors explain how their results of their research have addressed their research question. They may suggest where further research is needed.

**References** - The references section presents publications that were cited by the author in his work. Read the articles the author has cited to find out more about your topic.

Created by: M. Payne, Reference 10/08
**Bibliography** - A listing of bibliographic citations to books, articles, and other materials that are related to a topic; usually found at the end of the book or article.

**Qualitative Research** - Research involving detailed, verbal descriptions of characteristics, cases, and settings. Qualitative research typically uses observation, interviewing, and document review to collect data.

**Qualitative Data** - Information that is difficult to measure, count, or express in numerical terms. For example, how safe a resident feels in his or her apartment is qualitative data.

**Quantitative Research** - Research that examines phenomenon through the numerical representation of observations and statistical analysis.

**Quantitative Analysis** - An analysis that ascertains the magnitude, amount, or size, for example, of the attributes, behavior, or opinions of the entity being measured. FOR EXAMPLE, in describing a population, a quantitative analysis might conclude that the average person is 5 feet 11 inches tall, weighs 180 pounds, and is 45 years old.

**Questionnaire** - A printed form containing a set of questions for gathering information.