Patterns in Scholarly Writing
Journal Articles and Literature Reviews in the Social Sciences

Summary
- Abstract

Context
- Introduction
- Literature Review
- Claim (describes the gap this research fills)

Researcher’s Approach & Techniques
- Method
- Experiment
- Data Collection

Move 1: Establishing a Territory
(Topic generalizations of increasing specificity)

Move 2: Establishing a Niche
Indicating a gap or Adding to what is known

Move 3: Occupying a Niche
Announcing present research descriptively and/or purposively

“Objective,” external, established
Subjective, insightful, creating new knowledge

Analysis
- Results
- Discussion

Conclusion
- Start Here -
This is sometimes part of the discussion

Credits
Left column adapted from April Cunningham, “Academic Reading Diagram” Handout, cunninghamhannon.wordpress.com.