

**IDS 100 Steps for Reading a Scholarly Article**

This document shows the steps one should take when reading a scholarly article. As you will practice this skill throughout the course, you can refer to this document to help you identify the parts of an article and know the order that the sections should be reviewed to help you understand the material.

<b>Step</b>	<b>Section of Article</b>	<b>Section Contents</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Title</b>	The title of the article identifies the main research topic or the topic being discussed in the article.
<b>2</b>	<b>Abstract</b>	The abstract of the article provides a summary of the article.
<b>3</b>	<b>Conclusion</b>	Although one would typically read the conclusion last, it is good practice to look at the conclusion of the article after you review the title and the abstract to see if the article will provide you with the information you are seeking. The conclusion often will include the main ideas and “findings” or key “takeaways” of the study. It also points out any limitations of the study and identifies where future research may be needed.
<b>4</b>	<b>Literature Reviews</b>	The literature review section explains why the research was needed and may also identify possible gaps in research.
<b>5</b>	<b>Materials and Methods</b>	This section explains step by step how the experiment or research was conducted. This allows for other scholars to duplicate the research.
<b>6</b>	<b>Citations</b>	This section lists all of the sources that were referenced in the study. It is important to check to see if the sources used are current.
<b>7</b>	<b>Results and Discussion</b>	This section objectively states the results of the research. It also points out limitations of the study and can identify where future research may be needed.