Which headings do I use?

The way you title your headings (a.k.a., organize your argument) is determined by your research discipline. Review the following options, then seek guidance from your faculty advisor(s) and peer editing teammate(s):

Option 1: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

1. Introduction | Background | Literature Review
2. Methods | Literature Review | Background
3. Results
4. Conclusion | Discussion
5. Acknowledgments | Funding Source(s)
6. References (required)

Option 2: Arts and Humanities

1. Introduction | Background | Literature Review
2. Methods | Literature Review | Background
3. Results | Chapter/Section
4. Conclusion | Discussion
5. Acknowledgments | Funding Source(s)
6. References (required)

Option 3: Creative Works

1. Research Question | Motivation | Artifact
2. Literature Review | Background | History | Sources
3. Exhibition | Chapter/Section
4. Discussion | Reflection
5. Acknowledgments | Funding Source(s)
6. References (required)

Option 4: Social Sciences, International Studies, and Business

1. Introduction | Background | Literature Review | Research Question | Motivation
2. Methods | Literature Review | Background | History | Sources | Chapter/Section
3. Results | Chapter/Section
4. Conclusion | Discussion | Reflection
5. Acknowledgments | Funding Source(s)
6. References (required)

Note: Depending on your discipline, you may prefer to use “Bibliography,” “Notes,” or “Works Cited” to title your list of sources, but Explorations prefers that you use “References” as the title of your source list (denoted by superscripted endnotes).

Note: The use of the pipe symbol (i.e., |) indicates a choice you must make. For example, you can choose to use either “Introduction,” or “Background,” or “Literature Review” as the heading title for your first paragraph.

Explorations