Outline of an Academic Paper

**Title** (shows your purpose, topic, and limited scope)

**Introduction**  (own ideas)  (problem or question)
❖ Topic sentence, background or context, purpose of the investigation, etc.
❖ **Thesis Statement** (what the paper will cover & show): “This paper will …”

**Body** – Review of related literature, possibly method, data, results, & discussion, etc.
❖ **Support your thesis with reasons & arguments; cite data, facts or evidence**
❖ In-text citations for support in most developing paragraphs

**Conclusion**  (own ideas)  (solutions or answers)
❖ **Summarize findings and arguments, connecting back to your thesis**
❖ No more new information or citations, only your conclusions & future

**References**

List all sources cited in the References section, and cite all listed references in the paper.

*Steve McCarty, 2019*