#### THE SEATTLE UNIVERSITY Writing Center est. 1987

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# BASIC ESSAY FORMAT IN USA

#### Introduction

- explain question/problem topic sentence supports •
- lay background information
- lead into thesis statement

## **Body Paragraphs**

- topic sentence supports thesis
- provide evidence (quotes, •

facts)

connect ideas

### Conclusion

- complements introduction
- brings closure to essay
- can restate thesis
- connect paper to larger context/idea

Thesis Statement:

Supporting Claim 1:

**Supporting Claim 2:** 

Supporting Claim 3:

**Supporting Claim 4:** 

**Conclusion:** 

Minimum of one body paragraph and no maximum