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# Writing A Discussion Section

PSYC 308 Spring 2024

#### **Purpose of a Discussion Section**

- A comprehensive analysis and interpretation of the study's results.
- Demonstrates your ability to:
  - Critically analyze data
  - Synthesize findings
  - Contribute to the scholarly discourse

#### **Key Points**

- Interpretation of findings
  - Summarize key findings and interpret their meaning in relation to research questions.
- Comparison with previous research
  - Discuss how findings align with or differ from prior studies.
- Limitations
  - Acknowledge study limitations and their impact on interpretations.

### **Key Points**

- Implications
  - Explore theoretical, practical, or societal implications of findings.
- Alternative explanations
  - Consider and refute alternative explanations for results.
- Future directions
  - Propose future research directions and studies to address unanswered questions.

#### **Tips**

- Be both critical and balanced.
  - Present a balanced perspective by acknowledging both strengths and limitations of your study.
  - Avoid overstating the significance of your findings or drawing unwarranted conclusions.
- Provide a clear conclusion.
  - Summarize the main points discussed in the discussion section.
  - Reiterate the implications of your findings and their importance for advancing knowledge in the field.



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