

## **Discussion & Implications**

- Specify the most important outcomes/ results of the study (summarize briefly, don't repeat the results section!).
- Based on your results make a clear statement about support or nonsupport of your hypothesis.
- Note how your results were similar or different from other studies in this area.
- Talk about it—what are some plausible explanations for these results
- Specify why you chose to interpret results in the way you did.
- Discuss any limitations of your research study
  - Small sample/ pilot
  - Methodological considerations
  - Any other problems/ confounding variables not accounted for?

Implications are questions derived from your study that merit further exploration.

- What has this study contributed to the field?
- How has the study helped answer the hypothesis?
- Conclusions or theoretical implications that can be drawn from this study?

Some additional questions to consider for this section:

- Have you identified any trends—positive or negative—in the research on your topic? How might negative trends be corrected or positive trends carried further?
- Have you noticed any gaps in the research or areas where focus is lacking? Is this a problem, and what should be done?
- Overall, what direction should your project or discipline go in the future?

