1. Definitions

Academic writing is a formal style of writing used in universities and scholarly publications. You'll encounter it in journal articles and books on academic topics, and you'll be expected to write your essays, research papers, and dissertation in academic style.

1.1 Definition of academic writing:

Academic writing refers to a style of expression that researchers use to define the intellectual boundaries of their disciplines and specific areas of expertise.

Students, professors, and researchers in every discipline use academic writing to convey ideas, make arguments, and engage in scholarly conversation. Academic writing is characterized by evidence-based arguments, precise word choice, logical organization, and an impersonal tone.

1.2 Types of academic writing:

- **Essay**: A fairly short, self-contained argument, often using sources from a class in response to a question provided by an instructor.
- **Research proposal :** A research proposal is a simply a structured, formal document that explains what you plan to research (i.e. your research topic), why it's worth researching (i.e. your justification), and how you plan to investigate it (i.e. your practical approach).
- **Research paper**: A more in-depth investigation based on independent research, often in response to a question chosen by the student
- **Thesis/dissertation**: papers that are assigned to graduate students.