

ACADEMIC WRITING IN ENGLISH: ORGANIZATION

Dr. Bret Zawilski, Assistant Professor of Rhetoric and Composition
Appalachian State University, Boone NC USA

Invention

- Gathering ideas
- Creating arguments
- Forming opinions

Arrangement

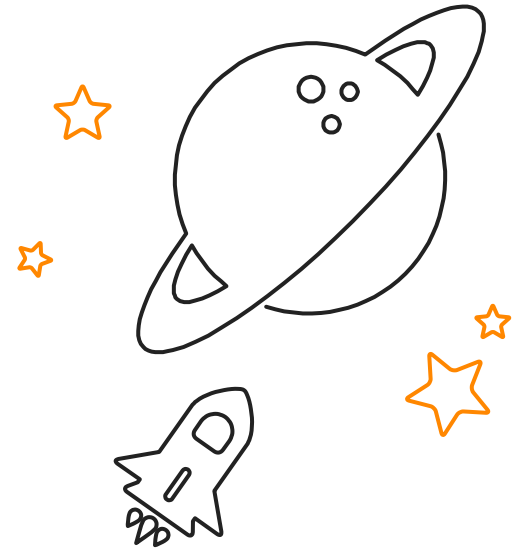
- Determining the best order
- Deciding how to use information

Style

- Adopting an appropriate vocabulary for your audience
- Determining level of formality

General Organization

- ▶ Organization will change based upon disciplinary “rules.”
 - ▷ Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion: Not appropriate in all fields of study.
- ▶ Arrangement involves determining when and how you present:
 - ▷ Evidence
 - ▷ Arguments
 - ▷ Examples



OUTLINES

A technique for mapping out your writing or a way of determining how you want to organize your paper.

Formal Outlines

- ▶ **I. Introduction**
 - ▷ a. Thesis Statement
 - ▷ b. Topic Background
- ▶ **II. First broad idea**
 - ▷ a. First supporting detail or point
 - ▷ b. Second Supporting Detail
 - ▷ c. Third Supporting Detail
- ▶ **III. Second broad idea**
 - ▷ a. First supporting detail or point
 - ▷ b. Second Supporting Detail
 - ▷ c. Third Supporting Detail
- ▶ **IV. Third broad idea**
 - ▷ a. First supporting detail or point
 - ▷ b. Second Supporting Detail
 - ▷ c. Third Supporting Detail
- ▶ **V. Conclusion**

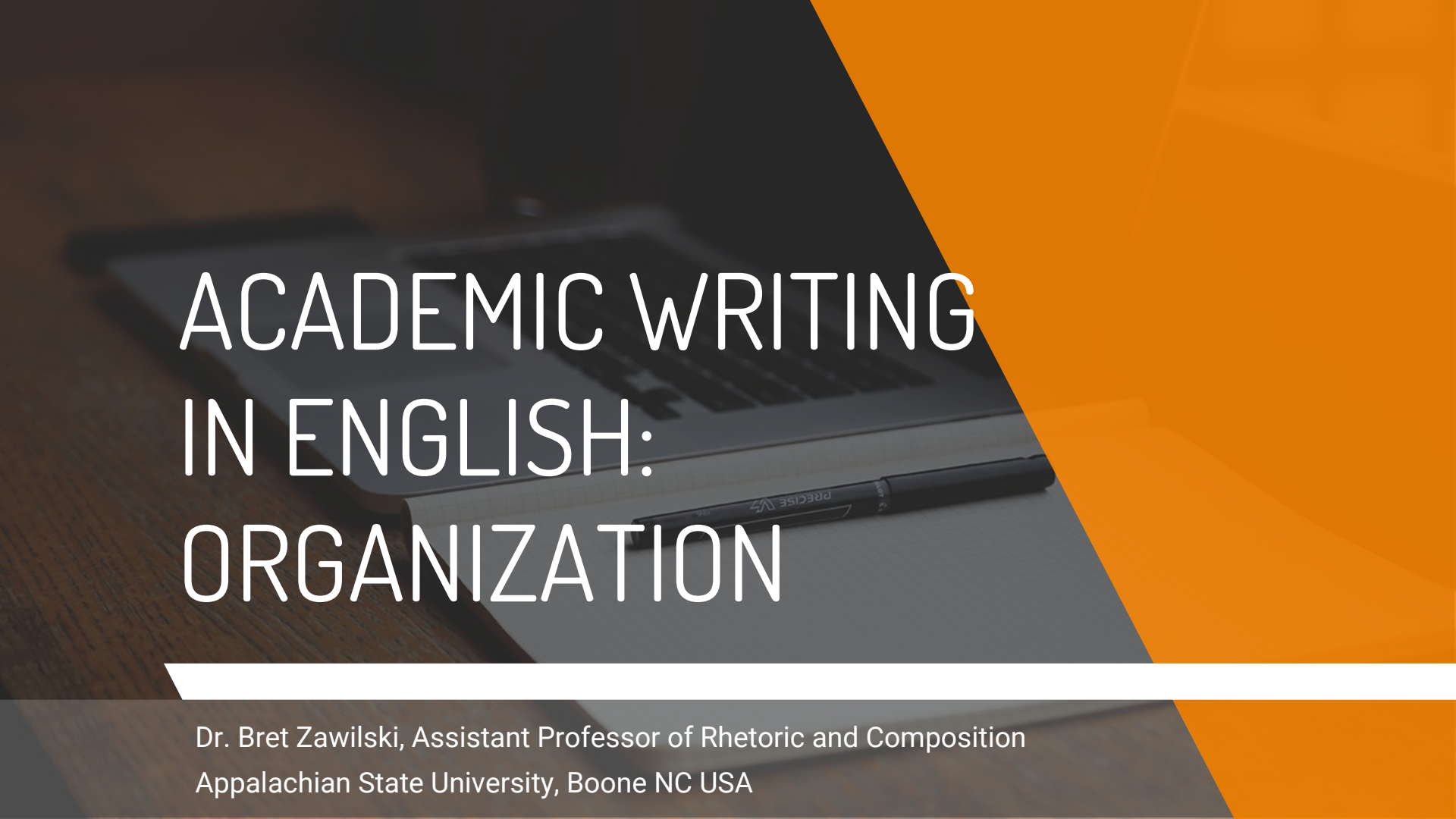
SCREENCAST HERE!!! CUT THIS SLIDE!!!

Outline Review

- ▶ **Outlines can be used:**
 - ▷ To plan the structure of a paper before writing it, or
 - ▷ As a way to map writing you have already produced in order to determine whether it is effectively organized.
- ▶ **Outlines do not need to be “formal”**
 - ▷ Be messy and construct outlines in the way that works best for you.

Supplementary Assignment

- ▶ Construct an outline for a paper on your topic of choice
 - ▷ Begin with thesis statement
 - ▷ In what order will you present information supporting your thesis?
 - ▷ Develop multiple outlines with different arrangement of your ideas
- ▶ “If I were going to write a paper on this topic, then I would organize it by...



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