FirstName Lastname

PID: xxx

POLI 203, section xxx

Date

# Title

Introduction here. Explain the topic, your argument, speak in general (conceptual) terms, lay out the gist of your argument. In particular, make your argument right in the first paragraph. Complete the first section by a paragraph such as the following. (This is called a transition paragraph, or a road-map.)

The paper is organized as follows. The next section gives background on the … The following section develops xxx. It explains in detail the xxx. The following section presents xxx. In the concluding section, I explain the significance of the findings.

# First Section Header

Explain whatever goes in the first section of the paper.

If you need to cite something (yes, you do!), then use this format: Baumgartner et al. (2008) discuss the rise of the innocence argument. [Then make sure you have that in the reference list at the end of the document.] Cites are similar to how it is done in *Deadly Justice*. Any direct quotation should have a page citation, unless it’s an on-line newspaper or journalistic source. But if there are pages, give the page number for any citation: (Alarcón and Mitchell 2011, 104–105).

# Second Section Header

Explain whatever goes in the second section of the paper.

# Etc.

You can have as many major headings as you need to make the point.

# Conclusion

Summarize what you found and discuss its implications. Perhaps what you found is a violation of the 8th amendment. Or perhaps it leads you to a normative or ethical conclusion. The conclusion should draw out the “so what” question of your paper.

Oh, and after you finish the conclusion, go back and re-write the introduction to bring up the questions that you answer in the conclusion. So it should come around in a perfect circle: You start with a question, a theory, or a puzzle; you discuss various elemetns of the literature or situation in the middle parts of the paper; and you conclude with an answer to the puzzle you laid out in the introduction. Tie it up nicely in a bow so that there are no hanging parts, dangling ideas. The way to do that is to revise the introduction after the conclusion is completed so that the conclusion and introduction are in parallel.

Recall from the syllabus that the paper should be about 1,800 words long (six pages in this format) and that it should have as many citations as needed to make your points. In addition to any journalistic or legal citations where case details may come from, you should link your findings to academic ideas and have at least 3 sources from law reviews, academic journals, or academic books. For example, in the references below, one is a journalistic source, and two are academic.

# References

Examples here; use this format

Alarcón, Arthur L., and Paula M. Mitchell. 2011. Executing the Will of the Voters?: A Roadmap to Mend or End the California Legislature’s Multi-Billion-Dollar Death Penalty Debacle. *Loyola of Los Angeles Law Review* 44: 41–224.

Baker, Mike. 2022. Police Presentation in Portland Celebrated Violence Against Protesters. *New York Times.* Jan. 14. <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/01/14/us/portland-police-protests.html>

Baumgartner, Frank R., Suzanna L. De Boef and Amber E. Boydstun. 2008. *The Decline of the Death Penalty and the Discovery of Innocence.* New York: Cambridge University Press.