PH403: Conclusion

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Acknowledgements

http://cool.barnard.edu/envsci/?page_id=562
http://online.physics.uiuc.edu/courses/phys499/

(figure: http://www.leaney.org/lake_district_walk.php?walk_id=711)
Strategies

• Echo the earlier sections
  
  *Echoing brings the reader full-cycle. You answer the questions you addressed in the introduction. You mention the most important results and discussion (not all)!*

• Simply state the conclusion:
  
  *If you can deduce a real conclusion from the discussion section, this is the best strategy*

• Summarize:
  
  *If your results do not lend themselves to a conclusion, summarize the important aspects of your work*

• Future work: what next?
  
  *The conclusion often features open questions, and usually suggestions for future work.*
Consider ...

• What is the strongest and most important statement that you can make from your observations?
• If you met your readers at a meeting six months from now, what would you want them to remember about your paper?
• Refer back to problem posed, and describe the conclusions that you reached from carrying out this investigation, summarize new observations, new interpretations, and new insights that have resulted from the present work.
• What are the broader implications of your results?
• Do not repeat word-for-word the abstract, introduction or discussion.