How to Prepare an Effective Poster?
Contents

Contents (Moving generally from upper left to lower right)

- Abstract (usually one paragraph)
- Introduction or Background
- Hypotheses (or specific purpose of study or project)
- Methods (or approach to doing research, constructing a project etc.)
- Results:
  - Try to include graphs, with legends and captions
  - As appropriate, include descriptive statistics (means, standard errors, etc.) & tests of statistical significance.
- Discussion:
- Conclusion (in brief summary)
- References
Title Banner (across the top)

- **Top Line:**
  - Assigned poster number
  - The title of the study.
  - Font size: at least 36 pt.

- **Middle Line:**
  - The names of the author(s)
  - Font size: at least 28 pt.

- **Bottom Line:**
  - Institution name
  - Font size: at least 28 pt.

- **Left-handed Corner:**
  - Institutional logo (optional)
Writing Style

- Concise
- Bullets format (like this document)
- Your audience will be reading or browsing the posters as fast as they can
- Some fine details can be saved for oral answers to people who have questions
Abstract

- The abstract is a brief summary of the research.
- A synopsis of what was done, what was found, and what was concluded.
- It is typically about 150-200 words in length.
Introduction or Background

- It provides the rationale for the study.
- It provide the background for the study including the history and background through a review of literature.
Methods

- This is where you describe exactly your research was conducted.
- It describes in detail the characteristics of your participants, materials, apparatus used and procedures followed.
Results

- You can describe your data and the results by using tables, charts, or graphics.
Discussions

- How you interpret your results, make sense of your results, and situate your findings in relation to other research or theory.
- You can discuss what are the limitations and implements for your results.
Citations and References

- Use citations wherever you refer to somebody’s previous published work or ideas.
- References are usually ordered alphabetically by last name of 1st author.
- References to journal articles usually include authors, year, journal, volume, and page numbers.
- References to a book chapter: consult the style used in your discipline (MLA, APA etc.)
# The Sample of Poster Layout

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<th>Title</th>
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Printing Your Poster

- We suggest having the poster printed at the UHCL Copy Center. The price is right! Large format poster printing services are also offered for a higher price at Kinko’s, Office Max, etc. You may also check at your own college/university campus for printing services.
The UHCL Copy Center

- Location: Bayou Building 2.403
- Hours: M-TH 7:30 am to 5 pm and Fridays 8 am to 12 pm. Closed weekends
- Price: @ $ 75.00 per poster. Same for non-UHCL presenters.
- Maximum size: width 42” and 48” long
- Must pay cash or check
- The file of you poster MUST be one PowerPoint slide or a PDF file.
- Turnaround time is at least 24 hours. The closer to the conference, the more time you should allow for the center to print your poster. We recommend that you have your poster ready at least one week before the conference. Then, if something is not right, you have time to correct it and can rehearse with your final poster.

For more information, please contact with the UHCL Copy Center:
(281) 283-2220
colorprint@uhcl.edu