

Poster Tips

SCHOLAR Day at UMU

General tips for poster presentations:

- A great poster is readable, legible, well organized, brief and clear.
 - Title should be visible at 6 feet, and content readable at 3-5 feet from poster (see font size (pt) suggestions on first template).
 - Font color must contrast highly with its background to ensure readability.
- Poster size: 36" x 48" or 48" x 60" (coordinate with SCHOLAR day committee)
- Avoid making your poster too busy (blank space should make up at least 35% of the poster).
- When appropriate, use pictures, tables, figures, etc. to summarize data and break up text. This can make the poster more readable and attractive.
 - All pictures, tables, and figures must be large enough to view all the details.
- Include important information on the poster (but not everything, be brief and clear)
- Your poster should read top-to-bottom in each column, and from left to right.

Helpful links to assist poster preparation:

<https://www.kmeverson.org/academic-poster-design.html>

<https://www.kmeverson.org/uploads/5/5/0/1/5501844/posterhandout.pdf>

Poster templates:

- Shown below are basic 3-column templates for poster presentations (3-4 columns recommended).
- Use the template that best fits the discipline from which you are presenting.
- These templates are designed as guidelines, you may modify your exact layout.



Natural and Health Science Title (85 pt)



Author(s) (50 pt)

Introduction/Abstract (36 pt)

What was the problem? (24 pt)
Research question/ Hypothesis
Literature review

Methods (36 pt)

How was the research done? (24 pt)

Results (36 pt)

Data (24 pt)
What did you find?

Discussion (36 pt)

What do the results mean? (24 pt)

Conclusions (36 pt)

Summarize the take home points of your research (24 pt)
How did your research resolve the problem/answer your research question?
What areas of future research are needed?

References (36 pt or smaller)

Works cited (24 pt or smaller)
Use your discipline's reference format

Title (85 pt)

Author (50 pt)

College of Applied & Social Sciences, (Department), University of Mount Union (36-50 pt)

Introduction: (36 pt)

Outline the project. Provide evidence for the significance of the study. Make reference to the theoretical frame. Outline the methodology. Don't tell me why not, tell me why this one works best! (24 pt)

Review: (36 pt)

A poster will usually include a review of key documents or discussions from the literature or policy. This is not an extensive dialogue but highlights most recent or key points. (24 pt)

Results/Findings: (36 pt)

Report the findings of the work/research. As a rule (with some exceptions) you do not discuss the findings here. In this section you are reporting only. In reporting you are outlining key findings from the study. Do not report everything, only those things significant to the work undertaken. These become the key points for the next section. (24 pt)

Discussion: (36 pt)

This is the opportunity to frame your findings in relation to other key work in the field. It may be that you found a significant difference to 'Another', say so and show why/how. In this section you should also consider the limitations to your study. (24 pt)

Conclusions: (36 pt)

This section should also include directions for future research. What should others be aware of, and why? Direct the reader to the purpose of research and close with a statement of how the work fulfills the question (field of study). (24 pt)

Sources: (36 pt or smaller) Should be presented following APA referencing format: APA 5, 6, 7, or Harvard are acceptable standards (24 pt or smaller)

Acknowledgements: Should include any support/guidance provided by NGO, local, state, federal bodies, funding organizations, etc.

Title (85 pt)

Author(s) (50 pt)

The College of Arts and Humanities (50 pt)

Major Point Two (36 pt)

Needs to stand alone, be understandable without the rest of the poster (24 pt)

May include pictures, graphs, etc. depending on your project/research

Major Point Three (36 pt)

Some additional details, interesting anecdote, data, evidence (24 pt)

Major Point One(36 pt)

Text broken up into paragraphs. (24 pt)

Some bullet points, and maybe some images of what was being analyzed

Don't put a big wall of text, even though this is your largest section.

Major Point Four (36 pt)

Summary, Conclusion, again stands alone without needing to read the rest of the poster

May include pictures (24 pt)

Bibliography (36 pt or smaller)

Bibliography according to your discipline (24 pt or smaller)

Acknowledgements

(36 pt or smaller)

Acknowledgements listed here (24 pt or smaller)

Section titles:

- The following are typical section titles for poster presentations. These will vary by discipline and project. Discuss your content and poster with your nominating faculty member to ensure proper section titles and content.
 - **Title/Name**
 - **Introduction/Abstract/Purpose**
 - **Review of Literature**
 - **Problem/ Theory/ Hypothesis**
 - **Methods/Research Design**
 - **Results/Analysis**
 - **Discussion**
 - **Conclusions**
 - **References**

Printing your poster:

- Coordinate printing of your poster with your nominating faculty member or the Director of Instructional Technology, Cara McEldowney (330-823-3198, mceldocj@mountunion.edu)
- Consider having your poster printed 1-2 weeks prior to the event.

Preparing for the day of your presentation:

- Spend time before your session thinking about how to present the material.
 - Be able to summarize the poster's key points and conclusion in 2-3 sentences
 - Prepare several versions of your remarks lasting from 30 seconds to 4 minutes
 - Be able to explain the most challenging parts of your poster, including figures and tables
- The poster session times and locations will be posted on the SCHOLAR Day web page. Find your name, session time, and location. Arrive early in order to set up your poster for your session.
- Dress professionally. Stand next to your poster for the length of your assigned session. Be prepared to engage attendees with your research and answer questions from viewers. Know your topic well to field a variety of questions. Remember, you are the expert on your topic.