

ELEMENTS OF A GOOD RESEARCH ABSTRACT

FOR THE UNDERGRADUATE SYMPOSIUM AND BEYOND

Submitting an abstract is a requirement for poster or paper presentations at conferences. A quality abstract increases acceptance rates and can help draw an interested audience to your presentation.

SUBMITTING AN ABSTRACT

WHEN TO SUBMIT

Wd	Discussion	Discuss with research faculty or mentors to get their opinions about submitting
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Wl	Length	Make submissions for research completed over two quarters
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CONFERENCES / MEETINGS

Cn	National	Find national meetings or conferences
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Cl	Local	Consider local meetings in Eugene or Portland
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GUIDELINES / REQUIREMENTS

Gd	Deadlines	Deadlines need to be followed. Be sure to know when abstracts are due
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Gw	Words	Restrictions on word count typically range from 150-250 words
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Gf	Format	Choose a format type (presentation, poster, workshop, etc.)
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KEY ELEMENTS FOR YOUR ABSTRACT

INTRODUCTORY SENTENCE(S)	RESEARCH TOPIC	METHODS/ PROCEDURES	PRIMARY RESULTS	PRIMARY CONCLUSION	SIGNIFICANCE
li	Th	Mi	Rf	Cn	Sg
la	Tq	Ma	Rd		Sc
	Tp				

SEE EXAMPLES:
Read examples and get ideas of abstracts from all different disciplines: <http://undergradsymposium.uoregon.edu>

SUBMITTING AN ABSTRACT

WHEN	CONFERENCES/ MEETINGS	GUIDELINES
Wd	Cn	Gd
Wl		Gw
		Gf

BEFORE YOU SUBMIT

CHECK & DOUBLE CHECK THESE THINGS

Cs	Spelling	Run a spell-checker to get rid of typos
Cq	Grammar	Check the grammar. Reading it aloud helps to catch errors
Cw	Word Count	Run a word count to make sure it fits the requirements

KEY ELEMENTS

There's a formula to writing an abstract and these are the elements required for writing a good one.

INTRODUCTORY SENTENCE(S)

li	Interest	Create interest
la	Attention	Catch the attention of your audience

RESEARCH TOPIC (choose one to put on poster)

Th	Hypothesis	What's your hypothesis?
Tq	Question	What's your research question?
Tp	Purpose	What's the purpose of your research?

METHODS / PROCEDURES

Mi	Instrument	Research instrument used (survey, interviews, primary materials, etc.)
Ma	Analysis	How analyzed the information collected

PRIMARY RESULT(S)

Rf	Facts	State the facts of the results
Rd	Discovery	Main discovery of the research after analyzing the information collected

PRIMARY CONCLUSION

Cc	Conclusion	Based on the facts of the results, what conclusions can be stated?
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SIGNIFICANCE (why is your research important?)

Sg	Gaps?	Does your research fill in gaps in the current research?
Sc	Creativity?	Does your research look at the problem in a creative or from a new approach?

Schedule a 1-1 appointment to get started or to get feedback about your abstract: <http://bit.ly/12qd6MU>
More information and ways to get help: <http://undergradsymposium.uoregon.edu>