



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
SAN ANTONIO

Student Research Symposium

Poster Presentations

Spring 2026

Content

Poster Information

Sample Layouts

Submission

What is a poster?

- This is a way to present your research .
 - People can take a quick look and then move on.
 - People can quickly read about the entire project.
 - Should catch their eyes while remaining professional.

Why a poster?

- Posters and talks are both acceptable ways to present research.
- A talk is often considered more prestigious.
 - Fewer talks at a conference than posters
 - Some conferences only allow attendees to present posters, and all talks are keynotes.
- People who come to your talk are interested in your paper.
- At a poster session, people may stop by and look at your poster even if they are not at the session to look at your research.

How should my poster look?

- There are three optional templates on the [SRS website](#), and you may also create your own.
- There is also a library guide that helps with poster design and layout: [Research Poster Presentation Guide](#)

How do I write on the poster?

- Use an easy-to-read font .
 - Arial, Helvetica
 - Not Times New Roman (better for books and papers, not posters)
- Use a LARGE font.
 - Not much on each slide.

What do I need to include?

- (May Vary Based on Discipline)
- Title with name/affiliation
- Introduction, with a few sources from background literature
- Hypotheses
- Design/Methodology
- Results with graphs/pictures
- Discussion
- References

Sample Layout

DO NOT PUT LOGOS HERE.
Doing so crowds the title and visually distracts from important graphics. Put logo on your business card, not poster.

Title pitched at general audience that provides conclusion or at least hints at something interesting

DO NOT PUT LOGOS here, either.

Colin B. Purrington, Department of Posterology, Hudson University

Introduction
Three sentences max.
Persuade reader you have novel, interesting question(s) and hypothesis. Resist urge to use all the white space.

Materials and methods
Three sentences max.
If viewer truly wants to know gruesome details, they'll ask or email you. Sometimes adding a pic is good.

Results
Highlight your LARGE photographs, charts, maps, or in this central arena.
Don't include every graphic you've made that relates to project. Choose one. Or two. And separate graphics with plenty of white space.
If you have just one or two simple graphics, viewers will be drawn to explore them. If you have too many or they are too complicated, they will be repelled.
Annotate graphics with arrows and callout boxes so that viewer is **visually** led through how hypothesis is addressed. The goal is to enable viewers to understand the logic behind your conclusions *without you needing to be there*.
Keep font size of all text (even graph labels) as big or bigger than in rest of poster.

Conclusions
Explain why outcome is interesting. Don't assume it's obvious. Three sentences max.
Maybe include a sentence about what you plan to do next.
As for Introduction, don't feel like you need to fill the entire box.
I.e., if you retain a lot of white space you will attract more viewers. Seriously.

Literature cited
Author, J. 2012. Article title. *Journal of Something* 1:1-2.

Acknowledgments
Be brief.

Further information
Please see <https://colinpurrington.com/tips/poster-design> for more templates and tips. I'm at colinpurrington@gmail.com if you have a question or comment.

Sample Layout #2

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[AUTHORS LINE] Firstname Lastname¹, Firstname Lastname², Firstname Lastname³
[DEPT./SCHOOL LINE] ¹Department of Integrative Biology, ²Department of Chemistry, College of Natural Sciences, The University of Texas, ³Suchandsuch Research Institute



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Introduction

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Figures and Results

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Conclusion

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Acknowledgments

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How and where do I submit my poster?

- Submit a PDF copy of your poster to the electronic drive located on the [SRS website](#).
 - This will allow judges to begin viewing posters ahead of the symposium.