General Recommendations for Poster Presentations

Many online resources are available to help you design an effective poster. The following is a non-exhaustive list:

- 1. https://quides.nvu.edu/posters
- 2. https://www.scientifica.uk.com/neurowire/tips-for-presenting-your-scientific-poster-at-a-conference
- 3. https://www.training.nih.gov/creating-a-scientific-poster/
- 4. https://quides.lib.berkeley.edu/posters

Recommendations: Formatting

Font Sizes:

- Title: At least **72-point font**.
- Section Headers: **36–48-point font**.
- Main Text: **24–32-point font**.
- Captions: 18-point font or larger.

Text Style:

- Use legible fonts (e.g., Arial, Calibri, Times New Roman).
- Avoid dense text—use bullet points or short paragraphs.

Color and Design:

- Use high-contrast colors (e.g., dark text on a light background).
- Avoid overly busy or distracting backgrounds.
- **Figure 1.** The figure is an example and should not be replicated if it does not fit the purpose of the project. Scientific posters are usually organized into nine distinct sections. These include: Title, Authors, Abstract, Introduction, Materials & Methods, Results, Discussion, Acknowledgments and References. The sections appear in the order shown above. Posters also contain several prominent figures and/or tables, which appear throughout the poster. A caption will accompany each figure and table.
- **Language**: Eliminate the use of first-person.

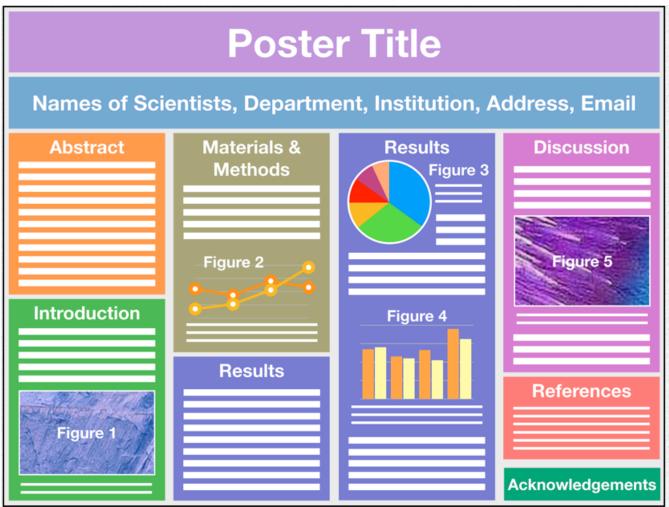


Figure 1. Parts of a Scientific Poster (from: https://ohiostate.pressbooks.pub/scientificposterguide/chapter/scientific-posters/)

A general rule is that *less text is best* and a figure is worth a thousand words. The text contained within a poster should be reserved for the most important information that a presenter wants to convey to their audience. The rest of the information will be communicated to the audience verbally by the scientist during their presentation.

It is crucial for a scientist to thoroughly understand all the data and information contained within their poster and effectively communicate the research to an audience both verbally (i.e., during their presentation) and visually (i.e., using the figures and tables contained within the poster). The References section of a poster must contain a thorough summary of all publications pertinent to the research presented in the poster. This way, if an audience member wants more information on a particular topic (e.g., instrument, technique, method, study site) the presenter can direct the audience to the publication(s) where more information can be found.