What Is a Poster Presentation?

A poster presentation is a visual way to share academic research, scholarly work, or creative projects with an audience. Rather than delivering a formal speech, presenters use a poster to highlight the key elements of their work through text, images, charts, photographs, and other visual materials.

During a poster session, students stand near their posters to discuss their projects, answer questions, and interact with visitors. Poster presentations offer an informal and engaging opportunity to share ideas, receive feedback, and develop communication skills.

What Should a Poster Include?

The content of a poster will vary depending on the academic discipline and nature of the project. Generally, posters may include:

- **Title and Author Information:** The project title, student presenters, and their school or institution.
- **Introduction or Background:** An overview of the topic, research question, or creative concept.
- **Purpose or Objectives:** What the project seeks to investigate, explain, demonstrate, or accomplish.
- **Methods or Creative Process:** How the research was conducted or the project was developed.
- **Results or Project Outcomes:** Key findings, completed work, or significant observations.
- **Conclusions or Significance:** What was learned and why the project matters.
- **Visual Elements:** Photographs, illustrations, charts, graphs, or examples of creative work that help communicate the project.

Not every poster will follow the same format. Students presenting creative works or projects in the humanities may organize their posters differently than students presenting scientific research.

What Happens During a Poster Session?

Each poster session lasts approximately 90 minutes. Presenters will display their posters in an assigned location and remain available to discuss their work with attendees.

Visitors may stop by individually or in small groups. Students should be prepared to briefly explain their projects, typically in three to five minutes, and answer questions.

No previous poster presentation experience is necessary. The conference is intended to provide a supportive environment where students can share their work and develop confidence presenting their ideas.

You may use the optional provided template or create your own. **Posters should NOT exceed 36 inches x 48 inches (landscape).**