

HOW TO WRITE A

**RESEARCH  
ABSTRACT**

A GUIDE FOR MASSURC PRESENTERS

# UNDERSTANDING THE BASICS

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## What is an abstract?

- **Definition:** An abstract is a brief summary encapsulating your research
- **Purpose:** Acts as a concise preview, capturing the core of your work
  - Think of it as a snapshot: a quick glimpse into your research



# COMPONENTS OF A RESEARCH ABSTRACT

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## Breaking it down:

- **Introduction:** Set the stage by introducing your research question or problem
- **Methods:** Briefly explain the experimented procedures employed in your research
- **Results:** Summarize key findings without interpretation
- **Conclusion:** Highlight the broader significance of your study



LET'S DIVE INTO EACH COMPONENT



## 1) Introduction

### Setting the stage

- The purpose of this section is to introduce your research question or problem.
  - Example: "In this study, we investigate the impact of social media on academic performance."
- Keep it concise and engaging, sparking interest in your audience.

## 2) Methods

### How was it done?

- The purpose of this section is to briefly explain your research methods
  - Example: "We conducted a survey of 300 students and analyzed the data using statistical models."
- Provide enough detail for clarity without overwhelming the reader.

## 3) Results

### What did you find?

- Focus on summarizing your key findings without interpretation
  - Example: "Our findings reveal a positive correlation between social media use and lower GPA."
- Focus on presenting the most impactful results concisely.

## 4) Conclusion

### What it all means

- **Purpose:** Highlight the significance of your findings.
  - Example: “These results underscore the need for educational interventions to address social media distractions.”
- Connect your findings to real-world implications.

## 4) Conclusion

### What If I Don't Have Results Yet?

- If it is too early in your research to include your results into your abstract, don't worry!
- You can just make sure that you include your results on your poster board to present on the day of the conference!

# PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

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## Pro tips:

- **Be concise:** Aim for brevity while conveying essential information.
- **Use clear language:** Make your abstract accessible to a broad audience.
- **Highlight key points:** Ensure that critical findings are easily discernible.



# PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

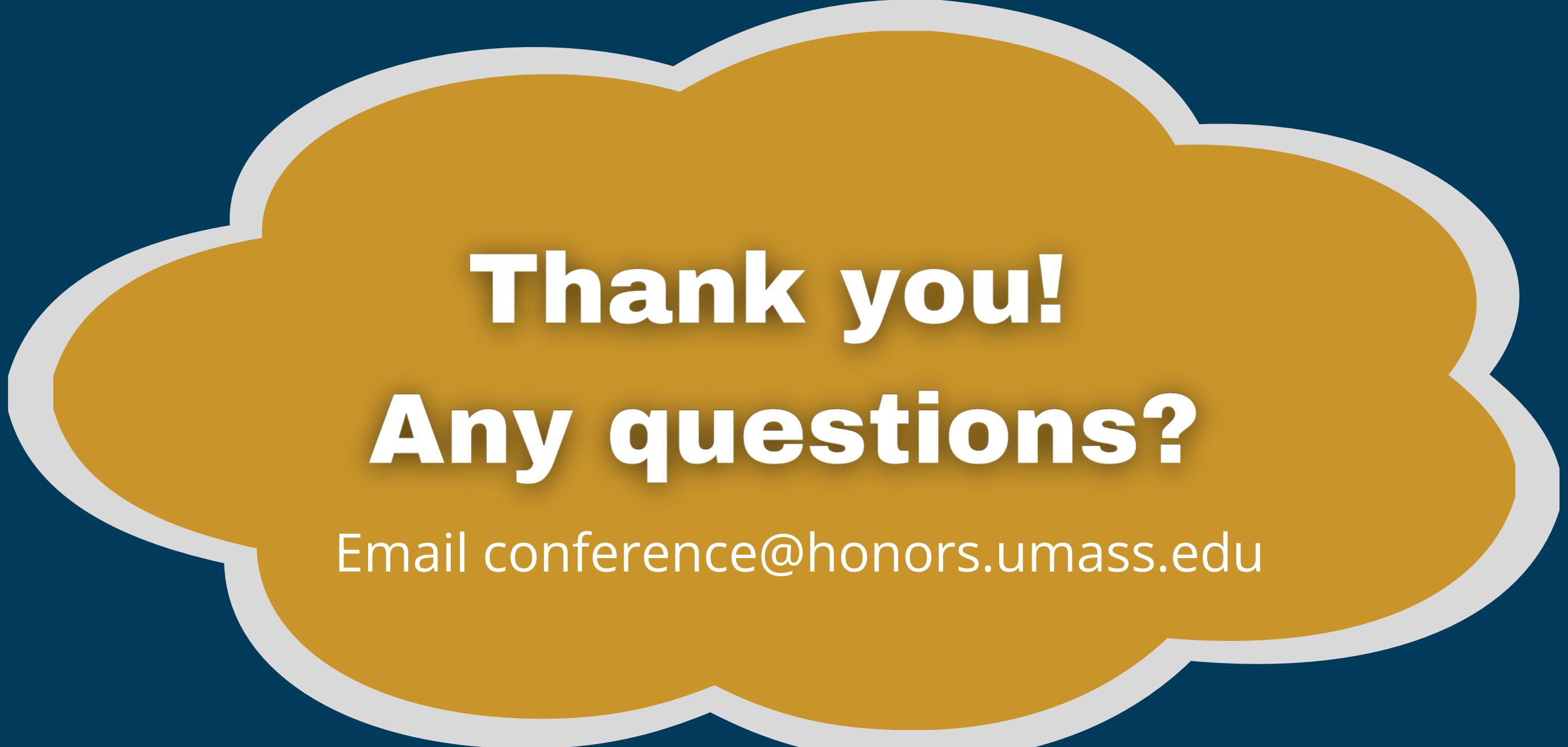
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## Avoid Common Mistakes:

- **Avoid unnecessary details:** Stick to the essential aspects of your research.
- **Proofread for clarity:** Eliminate errors and ambiguities that might hinder comprehension.
- **Provide context:** Add background information to help your audience understand your work.

Save the  
Date!

**How to Create a  
Research Poster  
Info Session  
Tuesday, April 1 @ 7:00 PM**



**Thank you!**  
**Any questions?**

Email [conference@honors.umass.edu](mailto:conference@honors.umass.edu)

**ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE:**  
**Friday, February 21st**