

HOW TO WRITE A

**RESEARCH
ABSTRACT**

A GUIDE FOR MASSURC PRESENTERS

UNDERSTANDING THE BASICS

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

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

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

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

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
Friday, February 21st