



*Emerging Caribbean Scientists Programs*

# How to Present a Poster

The ingredients of a good poster are:

1. Title
  - Reveals findings and attracts interest
  - Legible from across the room (letters *at least* 4 cm high)
  - Placed at the top of the poster.
2. Names of authors, their addresses or affiliations, contact info. (usually placed below the title)
3. Written text
  - Legible from 1 m away (letters *at least* 1 cm high)
  - With subheadings (should use larger font)
  - The sections usually are
    - Abstract
      - i. less than 250 words
      - ii. may use smaller font
    - Introduction
      - i. include: background, importance, & hypothesis (or questions)
      - ii. need not be labeled
    - Materials & Methods (keep it simple!)
    - Results (Data)
    - Discussion
    - (optional) Conclusions
    - Acknowledgements
    - Literature Cited (may use smaller font)
  - Good grammar is essential. (Spell check it & get someone to proofread.)
  - Brevity is the key! (Use bullet points where possible.)
4. Tables & Figures (title letters *at least* 2 cm high; caption letters *at least* 1 cm high)
  - Have *brief* captions
    - i. explain what the table or figure tells you
    - ii. tables and figures should stand alone
  - Poster text should refer to each table and figure
  - Simplicity is the key! (Eliminate all extraneous information.)
5. Aesthetic appeal (attractive, professional, uncluttered, splash of color)

The ingredients of a good poster presentation are:

1. A good poster
2. A good understanding of the material
3. Practice

Hints:

- Don't check your poster with your luggage. Carry it on the plane.
- Know the required poster format for the conference, and conform to the requirements.
- Know how posters will be hung, and come prepared with your own Velcro, pushpins, or poster board.
- Hang your poster well in advance of the presentation time.
- Bring handouts (business cards, abstract, pamphlet, or mini-poster)
- Dress appropriately.

Additional information available at <http://courses.uvi.edu/BIO/posterlinks.html>

Developed by Dr. Alice Stanford, [astanfo@uvi.edu](mailto:astanfo@uvi.edu)