Designing a Poster: Social Science Disciplines

The goal of a research poster is to have an organized visual display of your research. Posters should be self-explanatory.

Posters should be concise. No long paragraphs. Use bullets.

Below is a recommend layout option for students in the social sciences. (For students in the humanities and arts, please see the humanities and arts poster handout.) However, ask your faculty mentor if there is a different layout that is more appropriate for your discipline. Note how the poster is organized into columns and read from top to bottom then left to right.

You can either print each section as a separate sheet of 8.5” x 11” printer paper then attach to a background, or you can create your poster as one large PowerPoint slide and have it printed professionally. See the Undergraduate Research Week website for more information.

Your poster should be easily readable from 4-5 feet away.