

Poster Presentation Timing + Tips

(Version A – General)

Introduction/Background & Review of Literature = 1.5 min

- You have only 1.5 minutes to have the audience understand the basics of the topic and review 2-3 previous research projects that led to a question (Problem Statement/"Gap") that your research addressed.

Problem Statement ("gap"), Purpose of research (Goal) and Hypothesis (justified) = 0.5 min

- End the review of literature with a clear **problem statement** ("Gap")
 - Show your inquisitiveness and scientific thinking by listing some interesting facts and/or questions that you pulled out of the past related research which led you to the problem statement
- **Goal** - What did you specifically do in your research project?
- **Hypothesis** – What did you believe would have happened? Why?
 - Justify what you thought and why, even if you were wrong

Methods + Materials = 1.0 min

- Give the audience a general step by step procedure but don't spend get too specific.
- This is very often the most "over-covered" part of the presentation.
- Do NOT say "we did this". Instead say "the next step was to..."
- DO make it Very clear what your mentor did vs. what you did
 - Let's talk about this if you are confused how to explain the difference

Data/Results & Analysis/Discussion = 2.0 min

- Highlight the important facts – verbally and visually (very important).
- Show expected or unexpected data points or results.
- Graphs and Tables:
 - Know the units of measure and what the axis' (label them).
 - Be able to explain everything, be very familiar with numbers.
 - Be sure everyone can see all text/numbers on all charts/graphs
 - Highlight important parts with arrows/circles/boxes/etc...
- It is VERY important to show that you understand what the data/results showed WITHIN the scope of the project. Don't make wide-scoping, generalizations.
- Tie in your results with previous research. *"As in the findings of Smithson, 2003,"* Or *"In contrast to the findings of Johnson 2007, these results showed..."*
- State and explain whether the Hypothesis was supported or refuted.
 - Remember, you NEVER "Prove" or "Disprove" anything. You can "Support" or "Refute" your hypothesis or not have enough information to clearly do either

Future Research, Conclusion & Applications = 1.5 min

- List what the focus of the next phase of the research would be.
- Short bulleted summary of the research including:
 - What was the problem ("Gap")
 - What did you do
 - What did you find
 - What does it mean (**importance** of the findings and **potential applications even if they are minimal**)

Total time = 6.5 min **Total time allowed = 5-7 min**