



MULTICULTURAL UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH
ART AND LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM

ABSTRACT WORKSHOP

What is an Abstract?

An abstract is a very concise summary of the major elements of your project.

It states the purpose, methods, and findings of your project.

What
Should I
Include?



Introduction

Methods

Results

Conclusion

Example Abstract: STEM

Linh Bui

Incorporating Foundational Research Skills Into the Chemistry First-Year seminar

Introduction



The objective of this study was to build the foundation of research, critical thinking, and problem-solving in CHEM 192 to enable college success. The hope for this course was for students to leave feeling a sense of comfort and confidence in the skills they have learned and applying them to their future classes. The class is a necessity to shape a student's foundation for research and give them the needed skills to be successful as chemistry professionals. Learning has always been challenging, which is why many schools have explored nontraditional routes to improve the success and foundation of students' success. CHEM 192- Introductory Seminar in Chemistry was a new course that CSU wanted to implement. First, we explored other introductory seminar classes like CHEM 192 to visualize and view how successful they were and how their method of teaching the class was different at those institutions. For instance, a summer bridge program at Bridgewater State University exposed its students to STEM-related courses and introductory seminars before attending fall courses. Viewing approaches that other institutes took allowed us to qualitatively compare and evaluate what is important when guiding students to be successful. The survey allowed us to qualitatively analyze how the students felt at the end of the course and how well it prepared and taught them research skills. The results of the survey displayed promising and hopeful chemistry professionals who took CHEM 192.

Methods



Results



Conclusion



Example Abstract: Social Science and Humanities

Tianna Weiland
COVID-19 Racial and Ethnic Disparities

Introduction

COVID-19 has had an extensive impact on the American people since the pandemic began in 2020. Since then, the CDC has compiled data organizing COVID-19 cases by various demographics. By analyzing multiple CDC data charts in addition to raw COVID-19 data, all separated by race and ethnicity, the disparities present are able to be observed. By looking at age-corrected data, the white population was found to have the highest infection rate, while the Black population was found to have the highest hospitalization rate, and the Hispanic population has the highest death rate. These results display the health disparities present between races and ethnicities in the United States, bringing up important sociological concerns. Through an analysis of the raw data, separated by race/ethnicity and the presence of underlying conditions, it was concluded that the disparities are not due to biological factors, but rather to various social factors present in American society that need addressing. Some of these factors include, but are not limited to, access to healthcare, immigration status, language barriers, and region. By acknowledging the disparities in COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, and deaths, and investigating the reasoning behind the discrepancies, health disparities can be reduced, hopefully leading to health equity in the future.

Methods

Results

Conclusion

Example Abstract: Service Learning & Leadership

Joel Ibarra

Construct, Build, Assemble Diversity

Introduction



Post-secondary institutions and the professional world lack a diverse representation of individuals who are institutionally minoritized. Amongst first-generation students and students who are people of color, pursuing post-secondary education is a journey with many obstacles. This is true for students of color pursuing a degree in the Construction Management (CM) program. From my personal experience, I'm striving to obtain a degree in the CM program, a very competitive career, and encounter a playing field that presents students like myself with disparities. "Construct, Build, Assemble Diversity" is a project intended to hone down on the opportunities already offered in the industry and the CM program here at CSU to further promote a diverse and inclusive environment. My ultimate goal is to create a scholarship program, but my first steps will consist of fostering a mentorship program for institutionally minority students pursuing a career in the construction industry and studying in the CM program. To help me with my project, I've reached out to Alumni students who studied in the CM program to learn from their lived experience and challenges as a person of color and as first-generation students. From our conversations, there is an imbalance that's deprived first-gen and minority students of skills and resources that cater to their academic and professional success. It's important to me and for my community that this issue is addressed and dismantled. Establishing a mentorship program between alumni students and undergraduate students for the CM program will pave a durable stepping stone for first-generation and minoritized students.

Methods



Results



Conclusion



Example Abstracts: Creative Arts

Malia Berry
Dissonance

Introduction



The goal of this piece is to express feelings of being trapped within the link between body and mind, mostly relating to body image. My piece is meant to represent this dissonance by showing strife between two beings, and to bring attention to issues related to body image and expectation. This work stems from the feeling of being trapped inside one's body because of one's mental space, and how this negativity within the mind ends up destroying itself, but also its vessel. By creating this piece, I am allowing myself to confront my emotions directly, and allow myself to analyze them and their relation to my mind and body. This piece was painted in Adobe's Photoshop, then printed and adorned with gold leaf. My art consists of both traditional mediums and digital mediums. Because I feel both of these mediums are important to my artmaking process, I wanted to combine the two for this work. The figure at the top of the piece represents physical existence, while the skeleton bursting from its back represents one's mental being. For me, this piece acts as a way to express intense feelings of frustration. Through my piece I hope to start a conversation within myself. It is not meant to fix the negative feelings I have about my body, but to help me understand better how my mental state affects my opinion on it. I eventually want to restore harmony between my body and mind, and I hope for this piece to be the first stepping stone on that journey.

Methods



Results



Conclusion



Introduction

Introduction / Background: (1-3 sentences)

The beginning of the abstract should summarize the question or goal of your project.

The beginning should provide background information to contextualize your work.

In other words, why is this project important? Why did you choose this project?

LET'S PRACTICE.

- 3 minutes:
 - **Write 1-3 sentences to introduce your project. Consider...**
 - Why did you begin this project?
 - What question(s) are you exploring?
 - Why does it matter?



Methodology

Methodology (1-3 sentences)

What did you do to get your results?

Describe very briefly the methods you used or the approach to the problem or topic (the “how” or “where”).

LET'S PRACTICE.

- **3 minutes**
 - Write 1-3 sentences that describe the methods used.
 - Consider...
 - What did you do to get your results? EG., did you review existing literature? Conduct a survey? Collect samples? Analyze existing data? What medium was used in your creative arts?
 - Why did you select this method?
 - If you haven't started, what method WOULD you use?

A close-up photograph of a silver and black pen lying diagonally across a white grid pattern. A ruler is also visible in the lower-left corner. The background is a light gray grid.

Results

Results: (1-3 sentences)

- What did you find?
- If the project is in progress, what are some of your initial findings?

LET'S PRACTICE.

- **3 minutes**
 - Write 1-3 sentences that describe your findings. Consider...
 - What did you find?
 - What do you hope to get out of sharing your work?



Concluding Statement

Summary: (1-2 sentences)

- What do the results suggest? Why are the results useful? What will you do in the future?
- This section is used to wrap up the story, to convey the outcome of your project and to make any important suggestions and identify potential next steps.

LET'S PRACTICE.

- **3 minutes**
- **Summing it up...**
 - What do the results suggest?
 - Why are the results useful?
 - What will you do in the future?



Important Things to Consider

- **Have a main point.** Although the style of writing is different, the abstract is like a brief news item on your project, and news stories always have a main point. So, rather than trying to squeeze in as many findings as possible, summarize the most important elements of your project.
- **Be concise.** Your abstract should contain no excess wordiness or unnecessary information.
- **Make sure it is within the word limit: 250 words!**
- **Receive feedback!** Before you submit your abstract, have another set of eyes on it. This is helpful to make sure that your abstract is understandable, free of errors, and provides enough information. Send it to your faculty guide, graduate student, or even a friend!

SUBMIT!

<https://murals.colostate.edu/submit/submit-abstract/>