Preparing and Presenting Poster Presentations

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“Building Community”

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Poster Presentations: Judging 12:00-1:30 p.m. Open to the public.
Oral Presentations: 2:00-4:30 p.m. Maucker Union Meeting Rooms.
Creative Performances: 6:00-9:00 p.m. Davis Hall, Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center.

Registration Deadline: February 12, 2016

University of Northern Iowa
Graduate College
What is a “poster” and how do I make one?

- It is a visual summary of your research, creative or scholarly project
- Tells a “story”
- Asks a question, tells how you are answering the question (methods), tells what you found out (results) and puts your question into context of the work has been done before (discussion)
What you should know?

- Know your audience! Discipline specific OR general?
- Know the specifics! Size, type of poster needed, components
- Have visual appeal – font size, white space, use of color and graphics
- Know your message!
Types of posters

- Many types; most commonly used in STEM disciplines and social science research
- Humanities disciplines CAN ALSO develop posters – will be slightly modified from the most common types
- General format: “IMRaD”
  - Introduction, Methods, Results and Discussion
What are the components of a poster?

- **Abstract** – short summary of your entire project
- **Introduction** – background to put your question into context
- **Methods** – how did you study your question?
- **Results** – what did you find out?
- **Discussion/Summary** – how does the research you did “fit” into the work that has been done previously?

Make sure to have enough text, white space, graphics, images
Humanities posters have modified format

Humanities posters can vary; usually have a modified format

- **Thematic**: Group sections of your poster according to sub-themes and around the questions being asked
- **Narrative**: Tell a story about your topic; particularly useful for a specific event
- **Questions and Answers**: Summarize your main research questions and how you answered them (need to really make visually appealing)
How to format a poster? – Plot it out!

- Be creative
- Have enough white space
- Not too much text
- Fonts – sans serif; don’t use more than 1-2 styles
- Font size – 18-24 pt text; 30-36 pt headings; 54-72 pt – title
- Have graphics, images
The specifics count!

• Use of color – white, light background with dark color for text
• Avoid dark background; red/green color combination
• Make sure image resolution is high (not pixelated)
• Be organized in presenting materials (columns, headings, borders…)
• EDIT, EDIT, EDIT – be articulate and keep it understandable
The specifics count!

• For Tables and Charts
  • Label properly
  • Make sure to have figure legends
    • Have a sentence that summarizes the result
    • Make it large enough to see
    • Make sure to cite any graphics you have used and NOT generated on your own
Software - Powerpoint

• To format the slide:
  • Design > Slide Size > Custom Size
  • Slide Size
    • Custom slide
    • 36” or 42” – width
    • 36” or 42” – height
  • Check out the Grad College Symposium site for printing posters
Examples of Humanities Posters

Paul Klee and Comic Modernism

Paul Klee tends to resist classification in terms of style, since his style varies widely over the course of his career. Klee participated in and was influenced by a range of artistic movements including, surrealism, cubism, and expressionism but was not faithful to any one particular genre. The element that is consistent throughout the entirety of his career is comedy. My research revolved around the evolution of comedic techniques used as formal elements in the works of Paul Klee.

Looking at Klee as the comedian, I will assess his application of theatrical traditions as innovative strategies for constructing visual compositions. Borrowing techniques from the epic theatre tradition and the surrealistic stage of the Künstlertheater, Klee constructs an intimate setting in which the viewer must engage, acknowledging the arbitrary of the comic into visual representations. Klee’s theater is not only used comedy as a type of abstract art, but also an active method for social commentary. His paintings, which take the world as its stage, and where everyday subjects are actors, methodically constructed, documented, and referred to Klee’s very own comedic art. As consistently as his work changes through his development as an artist, comedy is a factor that consistently carries through.

HOW DOES KLEE USE COMEDY?

- Satire
- Mocks, Puppets, Performers
- Theatrical Landscape
- Bluebeard Years
- Years Before Death

Beyond Duty: Familial Responsibility in Leir and Two Lear

Paul Klee uses comedic elements as his technique for his paintings throughout his career. Comedy is the common factor throughout the entirety of his works through his application in terms of formal elements of his works. This study traces Klee’s comedic transformation.

- Klee begins with his satirical caricatures as a means of social commentary.
- He uses absorption techniques, influenced by Brecht’s epic theatre, demonstrated in the modernity of his works that create an intimate and artificial setting.
- Mocks, puppets, and performers dominate his subject matter, commenting on his affinity for the theater and also serving the same function as a revisionist effect.
- His theatrical language uses comedic techniques from the Künstlertheater combining the form, middle, and background, engaging the viewer to think.

Throughout his career, Klee used comedy as a means of psychological ventilation and towards the end of his life, his works became humorous.

I would like to thank the Othmer Paul Klee for the images and research opportunities. I would also like to thank the Graduate School and the School of Art and Architecture of Montana State University for their generous grant funding.

For a further analysis of the comedic in the works of Paul Klee please join me for my thesis defense November 13th, 2015 in Montana Hall Room 206.

http://art.montana.edu/images/Screen%20Shot%202015-11-20%20at%2004.42.42%20AM.png

http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-sF2Tj60xe-k/U20QPh1bQkI/AAAAAAAAAeA/0Aypm1_yW-k/s1600/Katherine+Poster.png
Examples of STEM, Social Science Posters

http://msuweeds.com/blog/wp-content/Goffnett_WSSA_2015-300x300.jpg
What to do at the presentation

• Practice beforehand – “3-5 minute elevator speech”
• Dress well; wear comfortable clothes and shoes
• Use your hands as you explain your poster
• Have eye contact
• Keep it simple and be prepared to answer questions!