**COMP492 Assignments PP1, PP2, PP3: Poster presentation**

## Overview

Posters are a common mechanism for presenting project results at professional meetings and conferences. This assignment provides experience developing a poster and presenting your work in this setting. Students will present their poster at the [Civic Engagement Symposium](https://www.dickinson.edu/info/20378/civic_engagement/4213/civic_engagement_symposium) (for H/FOSS projects) and the Science Research Symposium (for research projects). For concreteness, the rest of this document describes the procedure for the Civic Engagement Symposium. Individuals or teams working on research projects should follow similar guidelines, checking with the instructor for clarifications when necessary.

## Poster abstract (PP1, 5 points)

A *draft* of your team’s poster abstract, meeting the requirements for the [Civic Engagement Symposium](https://www.dickinson.edu/info/20378/civic_engagement/4213/civic_engagement_symposium), must be submitted by the start of class on the due date. Check the guidelines for your symposium. For example, the Civic Engagement Symposium may limit the abstract to 50 words.

**Submission of draft abstract:** One team member must submit the draft to Moodle. All team members must place the draft into a COMP492 folder in their individual WiD repositories on GitHub by start of class on the due date. Use a filename that makes clear that it is the draft abstract for your poster.

**Peer review:** Following submission of the draft abstract, some class time will be dedicated to peer reviews and feedback. Each team will peer review the draft abstracts of two other teams and provide feedback.

**Submission of final abstract:** The abstract must be submitted to the Civic Engagement Symposium by 11:59pm on the due date. All team members must place the final abstract into a COMP492 folder in their individual WiD repositories on GitHub by 11:59pm on the assigned due date. Your repository should contain both the draft and the final versions of the abstract with filenames that make clear what they are.

**Rubric for abstract:** You can achieve an excellent grade by meeting all deadlines and other requirements, using good grammar and style, employing an academic tone, accurately describing your project and contributions, aiming at a dual audience (people who are not computer scientists should be able to understand something about the project, but there should also be technical details for computer scientists).

## Poster content (PP2, 70 points)

A *draft* of your team’s poster, meeting the requirements for the Civic Engagement Symposium, must be submitted by the start of class on the due date. Check the specific requirements for your symposium and also research good practices for scientific posters. The most important thing is not to include excessive detail. Use large fonts; make your content impactful and easily legible from several feet away.

**Submission of draft poster:** All team members must place the draft into a COMP492 folder in their individual WiD repositories on GitHub by the start of class on the due date. Use a filename that makes clear that it is the draft for your poster.

**Peer review:** Following submission of the draft poster, some class time will be dedicated to peer reviews and feedback. Each team will peer review the draft posters of two other teams and provide feedback.

**Submission of final poster:** The poster must be submitted to the Civic Engagement Symposium by 11:59pm on the due date. All team members must place the final poster into a COMP492 folder in their individual WiD repositories on GitHub by 11:59pm on the assigned due date. Your repository should contain both the draft and the final versions of the poster with filenames that make clear what they are.

**Rubric for poster:** You can achieve an excellent grade by: meeting all deadlines and other requirements; using good grammar and style; employing an academic tone; accurately describing your project and contributions; employing engaging visual design and appropriate text, figures, and graphical elements; aiming at a dual audience (people who are not computer scientists should be able to understand a significant amount about the project, but there should also be technical details for computer scientists); ensure that all content is in large fonts legible from several feet away.

## Poster presentation (PP3, 25 points)

The main component of the PP3 assignment is to present your poster at the symposium, but you also need to print your poster. If appropriate, include a live demo using a laptop or tablet.

**Poster printing:** Each team is responsible for printing its own poster. Follow any specific instructions you receive from the Civic Engagement Symposium. As there can sometimes be delays in printing, it is strongly advised to submit your print request at least one week before the symposium.

* The Civic Engagement Symposium may cover the printing cost. If not, students have primary responsibility for the cost of printing, but if this causes hardship, please notify the instructor. Teams of one person should consult the instructor for possible cost-sharing.
* Options for printing include the Dickinson College Print Center and the store Staples.
* For a low-cost option, consider purchasing some cardboard of the right size for about $10 (e.g. from Staples), then print your poster in [tiled mode](https://www.sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/undergraduate_research/documents/poster_tile_printing.pdf) onto regular letter paper, and finally assemble it onto the cardboard using tape and/or glue. Provided reasonable care is taken, your grade will not be affected by taking this low-cost approach.
* Failure to print the poster at all would likely result in a zero for the PP3 assignment.

**Rubric for presentation:** During the symposium,the instructor will ask you to spend a few minutes presenting your poster. This will include some questions and answers. All team members should participate to some extent, either by presenting, answering questions, or both. Usually, all team members will receive the same score, but this could be varied in cases of clear disparities. You can achieve an excellent grade for the presentation by: presenting in a relaxed, engaging, and unhurried style; clearly defining and explaining technical terms and concepts; accurately conveying the objectives and results of your contributions; answering questions accurately.