Poster Session (100 points)
English 057
HACC, Fall 2017
Professor Thaker
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Office Hours: MW 12:00-1:30; TR 12:30-1:30, and by appointment

Poster sessions are popular methods of sharing work, and are used in every field. That’s because they allow you to reach a large number of people more informally than a presentation, while still allowing you to share your research. The goal is to enter into a conversation with your audience, not just speak at them.

For this assignment, you will be creating a poster for our English 057 Poster Session, held on Wednesday, December 13th, at 9:00. Note: absence on this day will result in a zero for this assignment, unless there is a proven, documented emergency, in which case you will have to present your poster at a different time.

Topic
Think of a controversy or question that has multiple perspectives and answers. Research the evidence and come to a conclusion about it. You must get approval from me on your topic.

Possible Topics (or inspiration) for Poster Sessions
• Does standardized testing help, or hurt, students?
• Should the government create a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants?
• Should we ban all guns?
• What, if anything, is Facebook (or any social media) good for?
• Do zoos do more harm than good?
• Is a vegan diet healthy?
• Should community college be free?
• What is the impact of discrimination against LGBTQ individuals at school or at work?
• Is football too harmful for kids to play?
• Should law enforcement use racial profiling?

**NOTE: You may not use any of the following topics: abortion, legalizing marijuana, capital punishment, global warming, euthanasia/assisted suicide

Research
Include **at least three sources.** These must include at least one article from the library databases and one book source.

**Format**

On either a poster board or a foam board:

- Attach either printed PowerPoint slides or document pages, but avoid overly-large chunks of text (you may only handwrite titles or subheadings)
- Prominently display the title
- Include bullet lists, graphics, phrases, drawings, or photographs
- Include in-text citations where necessary and a Works Cited page (you will receive a zero for this assignment if **either** are missing)

**Required Sections**

To achieve points for completion, you must include the following sections:

1. **Title**
2. **Introduction** (at least one paragraph) with **Research Question:** What is your topic? Why is it important? What is the debate that surrounds it? What question have you investigated through your research?
3. **Background Information** (at least one paragraph): Place your topic in context. What has happened in the past regarding the topic? What has led to the way things are now? (For instance, if you writing about banning guns, this is where you can introduce current laws, the 2nd Amendment, various current debates regarding assault weapons and background checks. Later, you may touch on some of these points again in more detail.)
4. **Evidence/Research:** This is the heart of your poster. Present your most compelling information here. Include the following:
   a. At least 3 **sections** of text or bullet lists (what these sections are will depend on your topic)
   b. At least 2 **infographics** (graphs/charts/diagrams/maps) that support your findings (you can make these or find them through research)
   c. At least 2 **images** (again, your own or found through research)
5. **Conclusion** (at least one paragraph): What are your findings? What are your final opinions on this issue?
6. **Works Cited** with at least three sources (at least one article from the library databases and one book source). Note: failure to include either a Works Cited or in-text citations will result in an automatic 0/100 for this assignment.

**Presenter**
You must be prepared to discuss your research with the other students. Though you do not need to prepare a speech, some notes may be helpful for these mini-presentations.

**Audience Member**
You will be expected to visit the other presenters’ posters, listen to their presentations, and ask questions.

**Grading**
You will be graded on the following:
- Focused topic
- Research and presentation quality
- Poster design
- Presentation

**Schedule:**
**NOTE:** This is a revised schedule. Please use this schedule for the remainder of the semester.

- **Weds 11/15** Poster topic paragraph due: One typed paragraph explaining what your topic is and why you are choosing it (5 points).

- **Mon 11/20** Library Session: Meet in the library computer lab.

- **Weds 11/22** Source Analysis Sheet due (10 points)

- **Mon 11/27** Research and work day. Meet in the library computer lab. Be sure to bring all of your research/notes with you.

- **Weds 11/29** Poster Outline Worksheet due (15 points)

- **Mon 12/4** Peer Review: bring one typed draft of each section of your poster (see “Required Sections” on page 2) (5 points). Be sure to include in-text citations in your draft.

- **Weds 12/6** Class Journal due (20 points): No late journals accepted.

- **Weds 12/13 at 9:00**
  - **Poster Session (100 points)**. Stapled drafts and peer review sheets will be collected.
**Note: absence on this day will result in a zero for this assignment, unless there is a proven, documented emergency, in which case you will have to present your poster at a different time.

Extra Credit Option
For this assignment, you can earn 5 extra percentage points by visiting the tutoring center. Just have your tutor fill out the information below:

Tutor Name:
______________________________________________________

Tutoring Session Day and Time:
______________________________________________________

Length of Session:
______________________________________________________

Tutor Signature:
______________________________________________________