

URCAD Abstract specifications (2009)

Please check each box to ensure that the abstract specifications have been followed.

Abstract Faculty Approval:

- This exact abstract has been approved by the Faculty Mentor. The abstract has been proofread and is ready to be published in the URCAD program in its current state.

Audience:

- The abstract is written to be understandable to well-educated non-specialists.
- The abstract contains a sentence or two at the beginning or end indicating why the research topic is relevant to the general public or to the nation as a whole.

File Designation:

- The file is named "**student last name_faculty mentor last name**". e.g. John Smith, who is working with Professor Doe, would name his file Smith_Doe

Format:

- The abstract is written in the past tense, describing work completed and results.
- The text of the abstract is **150-200 words** in length.
- The text is presented in one paragraph only.
- The abstract is in *Microsoft Word® format in 12 point Times New Roman font*.
- All text is single spaced.
- Margins are left justified with no paragraph indentations.
- A single space is used after the period at the end of a sentence.
- Standard form is used for abbreviations: "i.e.," "et al." and "e.g.,"
- Use "and" not "&"
- Punctuation should be located inside quotation marks
- Write out numbers under 10, e.g. "nine" not "9"

Abstract Line 1 - Title:

- Title is in upper and lower case letters with the proper words capitalized. (Capitalize all words except pronouns, conjunctions, prepositions, or scientific words that should not be capitalized. Capitalize these words if they start the title.)
- Title is less than 120 characters, including spaces and punctuation.
- Title is left justified.
- Title is in bold.
- One blank line space occurs between the title and Line 2.

Abstract Line 2:

- Line 2 consists of first name, middle initial (with period), and last name of author followed by any co-authors.
- All authors' names are italicized. The student presenter's name is bold; non-presenting co-author names are not in bold.
- Where co-authors are from UMBC, no home institution is noted.
- Co-author names do not include Ph.D., M.A. Dr., etc.
- The name of home institutions for co-authors (if any) who are not from UMBC are listed.

Abstract Line 3:

- Line 3 is in the format of the first name, middle initial, last name, rank, and department of faculty advisor(s).
- Faculty names do not include Ph.D, MA, Dr. etc.
- The department is listed in the form of "Department of ____"
- Example: Vin Grabill, Associate Professor, Department of Visual Arts
- There is one blank line space before the start of the 150 - 200 word abstract.

Abstract Text:

- First sentence states the research problem addressed.
- Text follows elaborating on method, results, and further implications.

- The importance of the research to the general public or the nation as a whole is described, typically with one or two sentences at the beginning or the end of the abstract.
- The end of the abstract is followed by a blank line and then a sentence in italics acknowledging any funding sources for this research.
- The funding acknowledgement follows the format of the sample below.

Also read for:

- General logic
- Noun-verb agreement
- Consistent tense
- Proper italicizing and capitalizing of scientific words

Example of Format for Abstracts

One Student Author:

Title of Presentation

Name of Student Author First M. Last, Co-Author 1, Co. Author 2

Name of Mentor, Rank of Mentor, Department of _____(Mentor's Department)

No Prefixes/Suffixes (e.g., no Dr. or PhD.)

Institution is assumed to be UMBC unless otherwise noted after department

Written abstract which is aligned to the left. Only one space after periods and no spaces after or before a /. Please also ensure that scientific names are appropriately *italicized* and when abbreviated, only the first letter is capitalized, i.e. *E. coli*.

Funding information is provided here in italics. One line space between body and funding.

Multiple Student Authors:

Title of Presentation

Name of Student Author 1, Name of Student Author 2, Co-Author 1, Co-Author 2

Name of Mentor, Rank of Mentor, Department of _____(Mentor's Department)

Written abstract which is aligned to the left. Only one space after periods and no spaces after or before a /. Please also ensure that scientific names are appropriately *italicized* and when abbreviated, only the first letter is capitalized, i.e. *E. coli*.

Funding information is provided here in italics. One line space between body and funding.

Mentors and Co-Authors from Off-Campus

Title of Presentation

Name of Student Author, Co-Author 1¹, Co. Author 2

'Name of Author's Department, School/Institute Author belongs to
Name of Mentor, Rank of Mentor, Department of _____(Mentor's Department)

Written abstract which is aligned to the left. Only one space after periods and no spaces after or before a /.
Please also ensure that scientific names are appropriately *italicized* and when abbreviated, only the first letter is capitalized, i.e. *E. coli*.

Funding information is provided here in italics. One line space between body and funding.

Example:

Oscar Wilde: Degenerate or Revolutionary?

Sarah Lichtner

Orianne Smith, Assistant Professor, Department of English

Most research on Wilde focuses on his homosexuality, on specific instances of his plagiarism and the original sources, and on Wilde's perspectives on art and the artist. Wilde's excessive plagiarism is not frequently mentioned in classrooms, questioning the legitimacy of Wilde as a leading figure of Victorian literature. My research analyzes the causes of Wilde's exaggerated and extensive plagiaristic tendencies. The combinations of the conceptual approach to originality and plagiarism in the late 19th century, theories of criminality and degeneration, and Wilde's own writings serve to illustrate Wilde's deviant presence within the decadent society of London at the *fin-de-siècle*. He symbolizes decadence as he flaunts arrogance and ego-mania, furthering his presence as a member of the artistic elite, while rejecting the normalized societal notions of art as the creation of something new and testing whether new forms of art can be created in immoral plagiaristic ways. I will also seek to approach Wilde from a Lacanian psychoanalytic perspective, demonstration that some of Wilde's own issues with identity are similar to that of his character of Dorian Gray. By exploring Wilde's many societal influences and his calculated and extensive plagiarism, Wilde becomes more of a revolutionary figure than the degenerate of his contemporaries. .

Example of general funding acknowledgment:

Begin funding acknowledgements with "*This work was funded, in part,*"

*This work was funded, in part, by NIH/HIGMS MARC U*STAR T34 08663 National Research Service Award to UMBC, the HHMI Undergraduate Scholars Program at UMBC and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.*

Text for Undergraduate Research Award funding acknowledgment:

This work was funded through an Undergraduate Research Award from the UMBC Office of Undergraduate Education.

Note: To see all of last year's URCAD abstracts visit: [URCAD 2008 Abstracts](#).