

WRITING AN ABSTRACT

In Collaboration With the GCSU Writing Center

MURACE Abstract Formatting Guidelines

1. Make sure your title is in **title case** (ex. The Brown Fox Ran Away)
2. Your title should be **no more than 15 words**
3. Your abstract should be between **150-300 words**
4. **References are allowed** in your abstract, but **not required**
5. **Do not use special characters**; the submission form cannot read them
6. A maximum of **two primary authors** is permitted
7. All abstracts **must be approved by your faculty mentor** listed on the submission form
8. **Double check punctuation and spelling**; the title and author(s) will appear exactly as they are entered.

Knowing Your Audience

Knowing your audience is the key to a great abstract. Why? Because it will affect the presence of background information and terms. Keep the audience in mind when forming your abstract.



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Elements of a Successful Abstract

Move One (Purpose/Problem)- involves outlining, promoting, problematizing the field or topic, justifying this particular piece of research/study. It answers the questions- What do we know about the topic? and Why is the topic important?

Move Two (Methods)- Introduces methodology, demographic, or procedural comments. Answers the question- What is the study about?

Move Three (Procedure)- Summarizes the main findings. Answers the question- How was it done?

Move Four (Results)- highlights the outcome/results. Answers the question- What was discovered?

Move Five (Implications/Conclusion)- lists further implications, limitations, and future developments. Answers the question- What do the findings mean?