Spring 2016 International Studies Poster Session Information

Friday, May 13, 2016 in 2520D UCC
(2nd floor of the Old Capitol Mall)

- 1:00 – 2:30 pm Faculty judging for cash prizes; students must be present to be eligible
- 2:30 pm – 3:00 pm Break for students
- 3:00 – 4:30 pm Students participate in poster session

The International Studies poster session is required for students who are completing the Honors ISBA curriculum. Students are expected to construct a poster that highlights the most important aspects of their Honors Thesis; to verbally present a synopsis of their research for the faculty judges (5 minutes or less); and to discuss their research and findings with the faculty, students, staff, and community members who attend the poster session. Photos from previous IS poster sessions are on the IS website.

Specific instructions for the Honors IS poster session

- The International Studies Program will provide:
  - Easels for all posters
  - Clips to attach posters to poster board (or push pins to display poster on the wall)

- Students must bring:
  - Their poster (which can be no larger than 3 feet tall x 4 feet wide)
  - Poster board to which they will attach their poster

Information for creating a poster

A poster should guide its audience through the basics of the study. A poster should have enough information so that if the presenter is absent, audience members can still understand the research question, methods and conclusions. Minute details should be excluded, and instead reserved for those audience members who ask additional questions. Most text should be readable from 10 feet away. All text should be readable from 6 feet away. Vivid colors, charts & graphics are all extremely useful in this medium. Remember to use non-technical language, so that anyone who reads your poster can leave with a basic understanding of your project. Be sure to identify yourself, your faculty mentor and the title of your Honors Thesis on your poster.
See the International Studies “Poster Session” website for examples of ISBA Honors posters from previous semesters.

Most students will choose to have their poster professionally printed (laminated, with high-quality colors & clearly readable text). Many local businesses offer printing services, but in most cases UI Printing offers the most affordable options. Be sure to contact UI Printing well enough in advance so that your poster will be ready before the IS poster session. http://www.uiowa.edu/~prntmail/prices/print/colorposter.shtml.

If finances are a significant obstacle for you, you can also construct a poster of your own. Simply purchase some poster board or cardboard (~$5), and you can print, cut and paste power point slides of your research onto the board. Do be aware, however, that Honors IS students and other students participating in poster sessions on campus (such as the Iowa Center for Research by Undergraduates Festival), generally produce very impressive posters, so that will be the context in which you are presenting your poster.

Your faculty mentor can be an important resource for creating your poster. Additionally, here are other resources:

- Email Nicole-dudley@uiowa.edu (from the UI Digital Studio for Public Arts and Humanities; 1015 Main Library) to request an individual consultation
- Designing Communications for a Poster Fair
- Writing Strategies for Poster Sessions
- How to Make a Great Poster
- ICRU (Iowa Center for Research by Undergraduates)