

# Symposium for Undergraduate Research and Creativity

formerly Temple Undergraduate Research Forum and Creative Works Symposium (TURF-CreWS)  
Checklist for Abstract and Project Presentation

Below are the basic criteria by which the SURC Review Board evaluates abstracts from CLA. Abstracts must reflect the asterisked items; the Review Board infers the other items based on abstract content. Given that research methods and criteria for excellence vary by discipline, presenters should work with their nominating professors to prepare both the application abstract and--if the Board accepts the project--the final paper or poster. **Please limit abstracts to 250 words.**

**1. \*Clarity of Purpose:** Does the researcher clearly state (1) the specific question or problem the research seeks to answer or address and (2) why that research question or problem is important?

**2. Social Relevance of Topic:** Does the researcher overtly explain--or is it otherwise clear--why the research issue is now or formerly was of social concern/importance?

**3. \*Clarity of Method/Process:** Does the researcher clearly state the process or method by which the research was conducted—the means by which the researcher sought to answer the question(s) in #1?

A. For *empirical studies*, are the methods of (1) collecting data (e. g., survey, experiment, interviews, review of literature, etc.) and (2) analyzing data (e. g., content analysis, ANOVA, etc.) overtly and clearly stated?

**or**

B. For critical analysis or theory-based projects, does the researcher state a clear method of inquiry (e. g., critical analysis, close-reading, content analysis, literature review, etc.) used to conduct the research?

**4. \*Clarity of Findings and/or Conclusions Summary:** Does the researcher provide a clear summary of (1) the most relevant findings/answers, and/or (2) conclusions—what the findings mean, or at least what we should interpret the findings to mean?

**5. Plausibility of Findings and/or Conclusions:** Given the project's purpose and method(s), do the findings /conclusions seem reasonable?

## 6. Clarity of Implications

A. **For social-behavioral projects:** Does the researcher state clear, reasonable implications of the research results—that is, (1) what these findings reveal that we did not know before and (2) what we should do/think/believe differently now that we have the research results?

**and/or**

B. **For humanities-based projects:** Does the researcher state the project's implications for society or subsets of society and, if relevant, for the discipline from which the project comes?