

2018 SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Submission Categories

Papers can be submitted in the following categories:

1. Allied Health/Nursing
2. Anthropology
3. Arts
4. Biochemical/Biomedical/Medical Informatics
5. Biology
6. Business and Economics
7. Chemistry
8. Communications/Media Studies
9. Computer Science
10. Education
11. Engineering Technologies
12. Environmental Studies/ Natural Sciences/
13. History
14. Information Technology/Gaming
15. Interdisciplinary Studies
16. International Studies/Globalization
17. Literature
18. Mathematics
19. Multicultural Studies
20. Philosophy and Religion
21. Physical Sciences
22. Political Science
23. Psychology
24. Social Justice
25. Sociology
26. Women's and Gender Studies/LGBT

The above categories are a guide, and the accepted papers will be grouped into thematic panels. Students should discuss the choice of all the applicable categories with their faculty mentors and select them on the submission form.

Approach

The methods and tools of research/analysis should be appropriate to the specific discipline. All submissions must show the results of research, reflection, and an original perspective.

Length

Maximum paper length is 5,000 words, excluding the bibliography.

Format

- The paper must follow the discipline-specific formatting guidelines: be typed in Arial font size 12, double-spaced, with one-inch margins. Pages must be numbered with Arabic numerals in the upper right-hand corner (e.g. 1, 2).
- Please DO NOT submit a title page; the title page will be created via the submission page on the website. Name of student and college must not appear anywhere other than the submission page.
- References should be incorporated according to the guidelines of the discipline (MLA, APA, etc.).

Submissions

Submission deadline: March 1, 2018

- Eligible papers must have been written Fall 2016 through Spring 2018.
- Students must submit their papers online at **beaconconference.org** using the "Submit" tab in the blue menu bar and with permission from their home institution.
- By submitting a paper, the student agrees that it will be checked for originality by the conference organizers using **Turnitin.com**.
- Email confirmations will be sent to the student's and mentor's emails to confirm receipt of papers.
- Group submissions are welcome.
 - See "Group Submission Guidelines" under the Guidelines tab on the Beacon web site for more information.
- If students would like to submit a paper but do not have a Beacon representative at their institution, please contact the conference director.

Selection of Papers

- A panel of three scholars will select three papers from each category to be presented at the conference.
 - Each presenter will have up to 20 minutes.
 - Additional papers will be selected for a poster session.
- The group submission category is non-competitive and students will present group work during the poster session.
- Plagiarized papers as detected by **Turnitin** software will be disqualified.

Awards

- \$100 will be awarded to the student who presents the winning paper in each panel.
- The student's faculty mentor will also receive a \$100 award.
- The winning papers will be published in the Proceedings of the Beacon Conference.
- The group submission category is non-competitive and each group member will receive a Certificate of Participation.

Conference Planning Committee

Effie Siegel, Conference Director
Lucy Laufé, Conference Co-Director

If you have questions, please contact effie.siegel@montgomerycollege.edu

Hosted by Montgomery College
The conference will take place at our Germantown campus. Germantown, MD.

See Student Photos at beaconconference.org



montgomerycollege.edu | 240-567-5000

Why Beacon?

- Students submit complete, mentored papers
- Submitted papers are ranked by professors according to the quality of scholarship and originality
- The top three papers in each category will be entered as a conference panel
- Four-year college professors serve as judges and they read the selected papers before the conference
- Student presenters are judged based on the paper (70%) and the quality of the oral presentation (30%)
- Panel winners and their mentors are recognized at the final award ceremony and each receive \$100 awards.