TECHNICAL SKILLS

This guide is designed to give you advice on building some general technical skills for scientists. Below are a few suggested discussion prompts and resources. Use only the resources that will aid you in making progress on the goals you have set with your mentor.
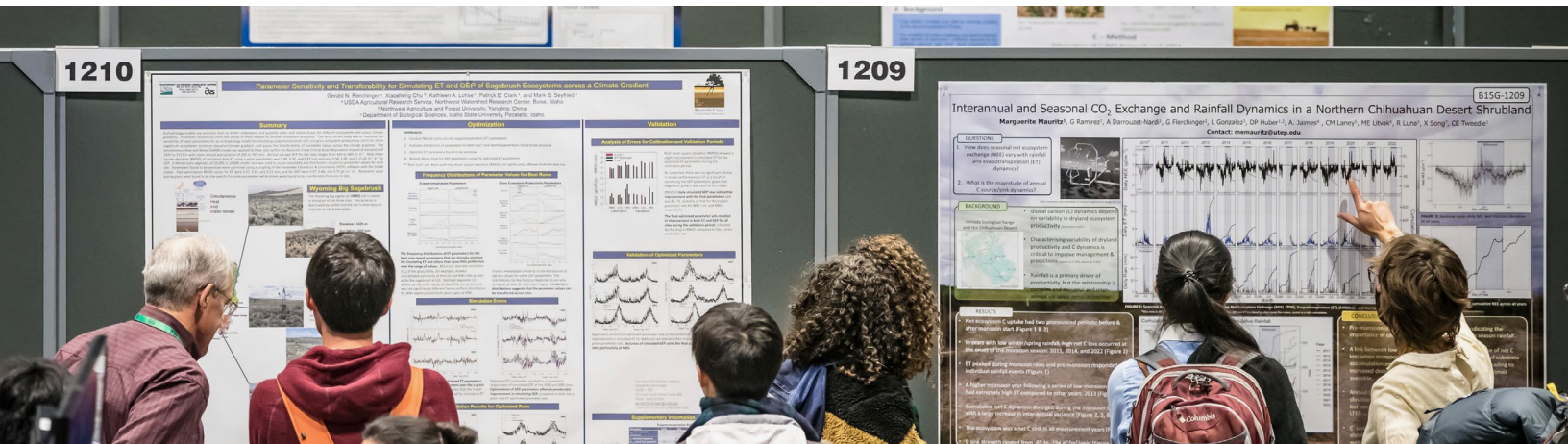
MENTORING 365 ™

mentoring365.chronus.com

Creating a conference poster

Creating a scientific poster can be a difficult task and requires that you think carefully about how you communicate the key results and findings of your research. Check out The Plainspoken Scientist from the AGU Blogosphere for a fun and lighthearted _post_ on what not to do when creating a conference poster. Also, check out AGU's _Sharing Science program_ for additional tips on how to communicate your science clearly and effectively.

Figures for scientific posters

Creating effective figures and graphics from your data can be a challenge. How can you best display the data you have collected and highlight key results or findings? If you're creating a poster to present your research, take a look at a video of a past _AGU webinar_ on creating figures for scientific posters.

Documenting your data

Research documentation is critical, especially with the expansion of data set sizes and open-source data. Be diligent with documentation. The Georgia Tech Library has an extensive guide on _documenting your data_.

Data management

Data sets are getting larger, as is the necessity for a deep understanding of database management structures and best practices. You may find these training modules on *data management* provided by the U.S. Geological Survey to be particularly helpful.

Data analytics software

Whether you are a beginner programmer or code for fun, there is always room for improvement! Check out DataCamp's YouTube playlist *R Tutorial—Learn R Programming* for tips to help you improve your coding skills.

Professional certifications and trainings

Many organizations require different certifications or trainings. Discuss the types of trainings most important to your career and sector with your mentor.