



Sep 17: Creating Effective Professional Presentations

- **Quiz #2:**
- **Feedback** from Students for Improvement
- Rubrics for your presentation
- Tips for Making an Effective Presentation

Reading

Naegle, K.M., 2021. Ten simple rules for effective presentation slides. *PLoS Computational Biology*, 17(12), p.e1009554.

Reference

Alley, M., 2003. *The craft of scientific presentations: Critical steps to succeed and critical errors to avoid*. New York, NY: Springer New York.



Your presentation

Recommended slides

- 1) Topic, name, introduction, and objectives
- 2) Finding 1
- 3) Finding 2
- 4) Finding 3
- 5) Conclusion
- 6) List of references

One slide per minute:

The common **rule of thumb** is approximately one slide per minute;

- **More is not better!**
- **5 min presentation**
- **2 min for Q&A**



Rubrics for your presentation

A peer review process

- 1) To assess and grade each other
- 2) To critique and provide feedback to each other on their work
- 3) To improve your presentation skills

Rubrics for presentation

Modified from: https://www.eiu.edu/hpl/docs/presentation_rubric.pdf

- Each student will be evaluated by their fellow students and the instructor.
- Each category will be assigned a numerical score for assessment.
 - 1 - Unacceptable
 - 2 - Fair
 - 3 - Good
 - 4 – Very good
 - 5- Excellent
- Use the same standard you apply to your own work.
- The lowest score will be discarded (due to conflict of interest).
- The scores will be rescaled to a total of 40 pts toward your final grade.

Presenter: _____ Evaluator: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____

C	Scoring Criteria	Comments
Organization	The type of presentation is appropriate for the topic and audience.	
	Information is presented in a logical sequence.	
	Presentation appropriately cites requisite number of references.	
Content	Introduction is attention-getting, lays out the problem well, and establishes a framework for the rest of the presentation.	
	Technical terms are well-defined in language appropriate for the target audience.	
	Presentation contains accurate information.	
	Material included is relevant to the overall message/purpose.	
	Appropriate amount of material is prepared, and points made reflect well their relative importance.	
	There is an obvious conclusion summarizing the presentation.	
	Speaker maintains good eye contact with the audience and is appropriately animated (e.g., gestures, movement, etc.).	
Presentation	Speaker maintains good eye contact with the audience and is appropriately animated (e.g., gestures, movement, etc.).	
	Delivery is poised, controlled, and smooth.	
	Good language skills and pronunciation are used.	
	Visual aids are well prepared, informative, effective, and not distracting.	
	Length of presentation is within the assigned time limits.	
	Questions and Answers	
Suggestions:		



Naegle (2021). Ten simple rules for effective presentation slides.

PLoS Computational Biology, 17(12), p.e1009554.

- 1) Include only one idea per slide
- 2) Spend only 1 minute per slide
- 3) Make use of your heading
- 4) Include only essential points
- 5) Give credit, where credit is due
- 6) Use graphics effectively
- 7) Design to avoid cognitive overload
- 8) Design the slide so that a distracted person gets the main takeaway
- 9) Iteratively improve slide design through practice
- 10) Design to mitigate the impact of technical disasters



A few more tips

A good presentation

(Trent Univ: <https://www.trentu.ca/academicskills/how-guides/how-write-university/how-approach-any-assignment/preparing-and-delivering-oral>)

- Has a focused and relevant message
- Is clearly organized and supported by evidence
- Demonstrates understanding and analysis of ideas
- Is delivered calmly and confidently



A few more tips

Keep It Simple and Clear (**KISS model**)!

(Trent Univ: <https://www.trentu.ca/academicskills/how-guides/how-write-university/how-approach-any-assignment/preparing-and-delivering-oral>)

Text

- Where possible, include a heading for each slide
- Use bulleted points and avoid long sentences (<6 lines per slide)
- Proofread carefully for spelling and grammar

Figures and Images

- Ensure images are clear and relevant
- Label all figures and tables
- Put units beside numbers on graphs and charts



Use a Template

<https://www.mcgill.ca/skillsets/files/skillsets/powerpointguidelines.pdf>

- Use a set font and color scheme.
- *Different* **styles** are **DISCONCERTING** to the audience.
- You want the audience to focus on what you present, not the way you present.

Colors

- Reds and oranges are high-energy but can be difficult to stay focused on.
- Greens, blues, and browns are mellower, but not as attention grabbing.
- Reds and Greens can be difficult to see for those who are color blind.



Avoid These Combinations

- Examples:

- Green on Blue

- Dark Yellow on Green

- Purple on Blue

- Orange on Green

- Red on Green

Don't !



Colors

- Large Hall Events  **Don't**
 - Avoid **White** Backgrounds
 - The white screen can be **blinding** in a dark room
 - **Dark Slides** with **Light Colored Text** Work Best



A few more tips

Delivery

(Trent Univ: <https://www.trentu.ca/academicskills/how-guides/how-write-university/how-approach-any-assignment/preparing-and-delivering-oral>)

- **Practice:** Rehearse
- **Stay Calm:** speaking to a smaller group
- **Pace and Volume:** Take it slow, loudly and clearly
- **Body Language and Eye Contact:** eye contact with your audience
- **Answering Questions:** Leave time to answer questions
- **Share your Personality:** Try to have some fun (yourself)



A few more tips

More is not better!



Sep 22: Climate Zones and Characteristics

Student feedback and changes

- Köppen Climate Classification
- Continental vs Marine Climate
- Mediterranean climate

Reading

Peel, M. C., Finlayson, B. L., & McMahon, T. A. (2007). Updated world map of the Köppen–Geiger climate classification. *Hydrology and Earth System Sciences*, 11(5), 1633–1644. <https://doi.org/10.5194/hess-11-1633-2007>

Reference

Kottek, M., J. Grieser, C. Beck, B. Rudolf, and F. Rubel, 2006: [World Map of the Köppen-Geiger climate classification updated](#). *Meteorol. Z.*, **15**, 259-263. DOI: [10.1127/0941-2948/2006/0130](https://doi.org/10.1127/0941-2948/2006/0130).

