

Assignment A11: Oral Presentation of Research Project Proposal

In Assignment A10, you (1) selected a research topic of your choice, (2) formulated specific aims and defined the scope of your research, (3) created some preliminary results in support of the basic structure/property-function relationship at the core of your proposal, (4) researched the literature to describe the background and the significance of the research, and (5) described a research plan for the proposed research. Assignment A11 consists in the oral presentation of Assignment A10 in class during one of the class periods beginning in Week 15 (November 28). You need to learn, develop, and refine skills to construct, present and defend arguments with transparent logic in an oral presentation to an audience of your peers with competence, confidence, and persuasion.

Presentations by (Pairs of) Students. Presentation slots will be assigned in class on Friday, 11/18/16 and posted on the online Course Schedule. Five meetings have been allocated for presentations allowing for a maximum of ten 25-minute slots.

Possible Formats (depending on number of students). **Option 1:** 25-Minute Talk and 18+6+1 Format. Prepare an 18-minute presentation and allow 6 minutes for questions and 1 minute for transition. **Option 2:** 45-Minute Talk and 30+15 Format. Prepare a 30-minute presentation and allow 15 minutes for questions. With either option, **it is absolutely critical that you stay within the allowed time.** You need to know exactly what you want to say and when you want to say it, and you must stick to your plan. In presentations made by two authors, each presenter should have about equal time and you may partition the speaking time between both presenters in any way you like.

Submission & Deadlines: Assignment A11 must be completed with MS PowerPoint. Submit your PowerPoint presentation in electronic form via email as “A11_‘your_last_name(s)’.pptx” no later than 10 am on the day of your in-class presentation. Each presentation will be assessed by rubric-based peer review by the students in the audience (except for the chair of the session and other speakers of the same session) and the instructor. MAKE SURE TO CLEARLY

WRITE ON EACH PR SHEET WHO IS BEING EVALUATED. Do not write your name on the rubric; as always, the peer review is anonymous.

The comments made in the R10 peer reviews and feedback from the audience contained in the R11 rubrics will inform the revision of the proposal in Assignment A12. Revisions of the PowerPoint presentations need to be submitted by midnight of the day immediately following the day on which the R11 peer reviews are provided to the authors (usually the class period after the presentation; some time will be needed to record the R11 peer review scores and to compute descriptive statistics).

The authors of the top-3 research project presentations (based on the R11 peer review scores) earn upgrades by one notch.

Chair Function: Introduce speakers and topic. Moderate the discussion. Be prepared to ask a question to get the discussion started. Time keeper function: Hold up signs showing 4-, 3-, 2- and 1-minute notices before the end of the presentation period. Stand up when the presentation time is up. Politely but firmly interrupt the speakers once they are one minute overtime.

Rough Guidelines Regarding Sequence, Content and Number of Slides

Content of Slides	18 min talk	30 min talk
Title, Author(s), and Affiliation (1 slide)	1	1
Background and Significance	2	2-3
Description of the Problem	2	2-3
Preliminary Results	3	6
Specific Aims (3 is a good number)		
For Each Specific Aim: Why to do it. What to do. How to do it. What will it mean? (2-4 slides per SA)	3x2	3x3 3x4
Anticipated Challenges		3
Summary	1	1
Total (lower estimate)	15	24-29

Citations on Slides: References are provided as “footnotes” in presentations. Place one or more perfectly formatted reference(s) at the bottom of the respective slide.