

Project Presentation Details

Each group will have **10 minutes** to present their project, followed by **2 minutes** to answer questions (possibly while the next group sets up). We have to keep presentations short in order to fit all presentations in the time slot provided. Therefore, I will be very strict to keeping each group to the 10 minute maximum.

You may pre-record a video of your presentation and send me the link to it before class if you are unable to attend due to time differences/other obligations. For those that choose to do so, we will post any questions that students ask about your presentation in the class Slack channel and ask that you respond to the questions within the next 24 hours.

Suggestions to make a great (and clear) presentation

- **Practice! Practice! Practice!** 10 minutes is not a lot of time. I suggest you practice your presentation in front of others at least once (if not more). You should practice presenting on Zoom as well, since you may not have had an opportunity to do so yet.
- **Use figures on slides.** Figures really are worth 1000 words, especially when it comes to presentations. If you can describe a concept using a figure rather than text, do it! Often times including small, concrete examples will be really helpful to explaining something. Whenever I give presentations, I pretty much never have any slides that contain only text. I encourage you to also avoid such slides unless you can articulate a concrete reason on why that is the best way to present that material.
- **Don't include everything.** There is no way for you to fit everything in 10 minutes. You will have to be picky about what exactly you choose to include in your presentation.
- **Start early.** Figuring out how to make a great presentation can take some time. By getting started early, you'll be better suited to make adjustments as you contemplate how to present the materials.
- **Ask for help.** Set up a meeting with me to go over your presentation before your presentation date.

Presentation Content

Below is the exact information from the project description on what types of information I expect to be included in your presentations.

Content: Your presentation should include the following components:

- A clear overview of your project topic/goal. It is impossible to go into all the details in such a short presentation, so you will need to be strategic in your choice of what to present.
- **If you choose a project from Option 1**, your presentation should include the following specifics:
 - What algorithmic approach are you investigating?
 - What are the high-level important pieces about how it works? (You will not have time to go into all the details.)
 - What types of problems is it useful for solving?

- How does it fit into what we have been talking about in this class?
 - Some demonstration of your analysis of this algorithmic approach. This could take many forms. A few examples are: (1) A plot that shows how the runtime changes with more data, or how accuracy is affected by a particular parameter; (2) Some overview of results found by running the approach on a particular dataset; (3) Comparison of this approach to others we have learned about. Etc.
- **If you choose a project from Option 2**, your presentation should include the following specifics:
 - What biological application or question are you investigating?
 - What computational approaches are used to investigate this application or question? You should describe at least one of these approaches at a high level that gives the main idea of how the approach works. Why are computational approaches necessary for solving this problem?
 - What are the main challenges (biological or computational) to solving this problem or answering this question?
 - How does it fit into what we have been talking about in this class?
 - You should present some results of computational approaches applied to your question or application (you do not have to have implemented or run the computational approach yourself).

Presentation Grading

Your project presentation will be worth 30% of your final project grade. Specifically, your presentation will be graded on two axis: (1) whether you include the required information for your project; and (2) the clarity of your presentation. I highly suggest you practice your presentation in front of others beforehand.