

Presentation Assignment for PSY 257D/NEUROSCI 212

Goals:

1. Present the assigned readings for the current week's discussion section to the class
 - a. Each group will present **1 paper** across the duration of the course.
2. Understand the background points, motivations, results, and conclusions of the paper and be able to communicate this to the class.
3. If you are **not** presenting:
 - a. Generate two relevant questions about the assigned readings each presentation.
 - b. These questions should be substantive and facilitate a discussion.
 - c. You **MUST** upload/paste your questions to your Dropbox folder on Sakai **BEFORE** the discussion section starts.
4. Attendance will be taken via your response to two short reflection questions at the end of each discussion section.

Guidelines:

1. Work in small groups (3-4 students per group) to complete the presentations.
2. Follow the grading rubric (see next page) for content guidelines.
3. Have fun and be as creative as you would like (i.e. puppet shows, song and dance, meme-based interpretations, etc. are all up for grabs).
4. Each presentation should be no longer than 20 min (if not interactive) and 30 min (if interactive).

Tips for reading original research articles:

For each section, focus on:

- a. Introduction: Try to summarize the background information on the research topic in 3 sentences and focus on identifying the gap in the literature that the researchers have identified. What questions are they trying to answer, and what are their hypotheses for the results?
- b. Methods: What are participants instructed to do? What is being measured? Think about the independent and dependent variables.
- c. Results: Summarize the main findings and link each one back to the research question(s). How does each result inform the hypotheses?
- d. Discussion: What do the results add to this field of research? How do the researchers interpret their findings? Do their results adequately support the conclusions they draw in the discussion? Are there alternative explanations for their findings?
- e. Think about ways you could either improve or follow-up this experiment.

Timeline:

- You will be assigned groups and topics the first week of discussion section.

Grading:

- Grading will follow the attached rubric.
- The total points for presentation are **30 points**. (7.5% of the total grade)

Questions? Please contact your TAs:
(anna.p.smith@duke.edu & yuxi.wang@duke.edu)

	Poor	Below Average	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent
Background Understanding ___/6	Little or no attempt to explain the motivations or background literature to the experimental study or review. 0pt	Some attempt to explain the motivations or background literature to the experimental study or review. 2pt	Demonstrates a rudimentary understanding of the background or motivations for the study/review and the basic question the authors are addressing. 4pt	Demonstrates an understanding of the background/motivations for the study/review by providing details about previous work that informed this paper and the basic question the authors are addressing. 5pt	Demonstrates an understanding of the background for the study/review by providing details about previous work that informed this paper, the shortcomings of the previous work that were improved upon or highlighted, and the basic question the authors are addressing. 6pt
Methodological Understanding ___/6	Little or no attempt to explain the methodology used or reviewed. 0pt	Some attempt to explain the methodology used or reviewed. 2pt	An explanation of the methodology used or reviewed that demonstrates the presenter knows the basics of what this method measures. 4pt	An explanation of the methodology used or reviewed that demonstrates the presenter knows the basics of what this method measures, and why it was used in this study. 5pt	An explanation of the methodology used or reviewed that demonstrates the presenter knows the basics of what this method measures, why it was used in this study, and what this can and cannot tell us about the topic at hand. 6pt
Study Conclusions/ Main Points ___/6	Little or no attempt to highlight the conclusions or main points of the study/review. 0pt	Some attempt to highlight the conclusions or main points of the study/review. 2pt	Highlights the conclusions or main points of the study/review. 4pt	Highlights the conclusions or main points of the study/review and how this improves upon past work. 5pt	Highlights the conclusions or main points of the study/review, how this improves upon past work, and how this informs the literature more broadly. 6pt
Organization ___/6	No progression of ideas from beginning to end with an illogical introduction and/or conclusion with no obvious connections between transitions/sections. 0pt	Some progression of ideas from beginning to end with an illogical introduction and/or conclusion with no obvious connections between transitions/sections. 2pt	Decent progression of ideas from beginning to end with an illogical introduction and/or conclusion with no obvious connections between transitions/sections. 4pt	Each idea is organized with a logical progression of ideas. Connections between transitions/ideas are clear. 5pt	Each idea is organized with a logical progression of ideas. Connections between transitions/ideas are clear. The material is easily understood by fellow classmates. 6pt
Creativity/Effort ___/6	No effort or creativity. 0pt	Little effort or creativity. 2pt	Some effort or creativity. 4pt	Presenters put in time to make an engaging and thoughtful presentation. 5pt	Presenters put in time to make an engaging and thoughtful presentation that did not compromise on intellectual intelligibility. 6pt

Total ____/30