Improving Presentation Skills

Educational Services for Students (ESS)
Strategic • Learning • Experiences

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Presenting Research and Information

Oral Presentation

Poster Presentation

Written Paper
Know Your Audience

Depth

Terminology
Selecting Content

Main messages
Avoid information overload
Value Add
Logical, clear, and concise
Designing Your Presentation

Color vs. Color
Font vs. Font
Size vs. Size
Contrast vs. Contrast
Starting Off Right

• First impressions
• Introduce yourself
• Importance of the introduction
  • Bold, challenging statement
  • Ask a question
  • Relate to topical event
  • Personal experience
Delivering your Content

• Create a verbal map for the sequence of main points
• Strong connection, relevance
• Clear objectives and purpose
• Use visual representations
Finishing Strong

• Connect and summarize
• Considerations for future research
• Questions
Preparation

- Arrive on time
- Have a plan B
- Handouts
- Practice, Practice, Practice
Verbal Communication

• Rate of speech and volume
• Avoid monotone speech and use pauses
• Avoid filler words
• Speak to your demographic
• Ask questions to keep engaged
Non-Verbal Communication

- Comfortable distance
- Eye contact
- Appear confident
- Appropriate facial expressions
- Gestures and movement
Conclusion

• Content is key
• Determine the message
• Pay attention to the details
• Practice
Questions?

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