Effective Oral Research Presentations

Jennifer Anderson-Meger with Megan Lewis and MaryErin Mueller June 20, 2012



Before the Presentation



- Plan, practice, revise, practice, practice....
- Avoid last minute panicssave the presentation in multiple places!
- Take a break
- Be on time/ early
- Organize notes
- Check your powerpoint for typos, etc.
- Save, save, save!

Personal Qualities of Effective Speakers

- Act confident (even if you aren't)
- Stand up straight! (source: everybody's mother)
- Don't giggle
- Watch the ums, ahs, "like you know", etc.
- Look at the audience
- Project your voice (practice)
- Dress nicely! It makes a difference in how you feel
- BEYOURSELF- make a connection with audience

Key Points of Presentations

- Introduce yourself!
- Oral presentations are concise
- Well planned- don't wing it! (but it is ok to be extemporaneous.)
- Know your audience and follow convention
- Define your terms and avoid acronyms
- Use an outline and notes to help you stay on track
- Everyone knows this... Don't read the slides
- Everyone does this... reads their slides sometimes

Using Powerpoint- Ugh!

- We hate powerpoint but can't seem to get away from it.
- Use it as a tool an outline
- Don't skip outlines!
- Keep the print large enough to read from a distance.
- Use professional font and designs- stay away from the cuteness.
- Keep text simple, fill in with narrative.

What NOT to Do

Lorem ipsum DOLOR sit

- Mauris eget dui. Phasellus mollis dolor quis libero. Aliquam ipsum massa, fermentum eget, tincidunt molestie, dictum id, purus.
- Nullam sed sem. Aliquam dictum felis ac ante. Pellentesque aliquam. Nulla in leo. Pellentesque tempor elit a nisl. Maecenas sagittis purus nec purus. In vulputate tempus erat.
- Integer viverra quam sed metus. Aliquam tincidunt sollicitudin orci. Quisque dignissim, dolor eget ornare ornare, ante enim gravida nisi, eget mattis ipsum orci nec est. Aliquam tempus suscipit lorem. Suspendisse auctor, enim vitae eleifend tempus, sapien urna cursus elit, et bibendum nibh purus at libero.
- Etiam leo. Integer ut arcu.
- Pellentesque sed dui at ligula posuere auctor. Morbi quam nibh, tristique non, malesuada eu, laoreet id, libero. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetuer adipiscing elit. Integer vel nisl. Nullam nisi. Donec et nisl. Cras quis neque scelerisque ligula malesuada tempus. Integer non libero et nibh adipiscing tempus. In convallis. Aliquam a lorem in elit condimentum bibendum.
- Integer in nisl. Phasellus nisl odio, auctor et, luctus sed, luctus sit amet, nisl. Etiam tempor pede sit amet nunc. Maecenas vehicula iaculis quam. In hac habitasse platea dictumst. Nulla ante ligula, rutrum vel, pharetra in, laoreet id, ipsum.
- Aliquam magna purus, mollis et, feugiat id, sollicitudin eu, orci. Vestibulum tempor. Proin non tellus. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetuer adipiscing elit. Vivamus consectetuer.

Outline for a Research Presentation

Introduction

- Key question/topic/hypothesis
- Purpose (what you want to accomplish)
- Background (scope and context)

Literature Review

Summary of key ideas or themes

Methods

- Data collection methods
- Sampling methods

Data Organization and Analysis

Overview of process for organizing and analyzing data

Outline Continued

Results or Findings

- Report without interpretation in this section
- Use visuals (graphs, figures, charts, etc.)
- Label according to APA format

Discussion

- Interpret results
- Connect with literature
- Limitations
- Implications for practice (in applied fields)
- Implications for future research

Final Slides

- References
- Contact Information
- Thank the audience!
- Relax!!!
- http://www.youtu be.com/watch?v= GLv18TzBLno



References

Department of Geology and Environmental Science. (2012). Guide to oral presentation of research results. Retrieved from: http://csmres.imu.edu/geollab/Eichter/studresrch/oralp

http://csmres.jmu.edu/geollab/Fichter/studresrch/oralpres entation.PDF

- Seim, R.W., & Spates, C. (2010). The Prevalence and comorbidity of specific phobias in college students and their interest in receiving treatment. *Journal Of College Student Psychotherapy*, 24(1), 49-58. doi:10.1080/87568220903400302
- Szuchman, L. & Thomlison, B. (2012) Writing with style: APA style for social work. (4th.ed.). Belmont, CA: Brooks/Cole.

Questions?

