

Research Project: Final Presentation Guideline

Submission deadline: Wednesday, 4/29, End of the day

Presentation date: Thursday, 4/30, in class, during scheduled exam time

Time allotted: Each of the 4 teams will present roughly 25 minutes (uninterrupted), then we will have a 12-minute discussion.

Final step after the final presentation: After receiving feedback, you will have an opportunity to

1. resubmit your slides on Sunday, 5/2, to make any corrections on your slides, and
2. add an extra slide (after the “conclusion” or “summary” page) to explain your plans next in better detail

Format: I still recommend the following format guidelines, which resemble AERE’s call for papers. I recommend you adjust slightly from your “proposal presentation” and “interim report”. I would recommend treating this as a conference presentation of your preliminary work, typically 18-25 minutes long, where the researcher doesn’t have everything sketched out yet. Your goal should be (i) to explain the main RQ, design, data, and results that you have so far, (ii) explain what you plan to do next (your vision for the next step), and (iii) be clear about what kinds of questions and insights that you hope to gather from the audience.

Sometimes, researchers like to have a “Preview of Results” slide at the end of the intro (around 4th-7th) slide to make sure the audience knows where they are heading. It is optional, but worth considering. For a somewhat polished conference presentation, the slides will be very curated, and the focus will be less on gathering insights to move forward. For your final presentation, your presentation should be more curated than your “interim presentation”, but it could be more open to the next step, as we are still in a classroom setting.

Typically, I recommend no more than 1 slide per minute in a conference setting, as the main goal is to disseminate your work and the focus is on communication. Here in class, we already have a sense of your research from your previous presentation, so you do not necessarily need to follow this rule. But make sure you practice on your own at least once to see if the number of slides is appropriate.

- Do use headings if possible (e.g., introduction, data, methods, etc). Explain what types of investigation you have already done and what you plan to do next.
- **Research Question (RQ) + Introduction:**
 - Required: What is the RQ? What is the purpose of the research project?
 - Optional & Encouraged: How does it fit within the literature? What is the marginal contribution? You can cite 2-4 papers to explain this.
 - Optional: If your RQ is theory motivated, a quick explanation will be helpful.
- **Data:**
 - Required: Describe the data source(s) that you have already investigated. Explain the granular level that defines the unit of an observation. Explain the proposed time frame and the sample. Explain the key variation that will help you answer your RQ.
 - Required: What other complementary datasets do you plan to collect?

- Optional: What's the novelty?
- **Methods:**
 - Required: What is the dependent variable? What are the key independent variables? How are these measured? What is the key variation?
 - Required: How do you plan to set up the empirical strategy to answer your RQ? What estimator(s) do you plan to use?
- **Suggestive Evidence**
 - This section is optional but highly encouraged. Without producing any estimates, try to look up some suggestive statistics. These could be aggregated statistics you find online about the key yvar and xvar; it could be maps that showcase key variation across locations; or it could be summary statistics you produce from an initial look at your data that give you confidence and direction for what to pursue next.
 - You can decide to present suggestive evidence first, or methodology first. Either way works.
- **Preliminary results [This is a new section]:**
 - Fully describe your results. Explain what your current results mean. Explain what you have done and learned, what you have not done yet and plan to do next, and what the limit of your data or design is that cannot be done.
 - If the results are preliminary, explain which part needs some tweaking and why you did the current version and how it may be updated in the future.
- **Potential implications:**
 - Suppose you successfully run the regression you plan to run. What do you plan to do with the estimates in terms of generating implications (regarding specific policies or specific market).
 - What is the economic importance of your results? If the results are policy-relevant, what are the policy implications? There is no need to detail the limitations of your paper or suggestions for future research.