

Proposal Guideline for Oral Presentation

Lucas Illing, Spring 2008

The oral presentation requirement in this class gives you the opportunity to gain experience in presenting scientific material. The talks will be given during class time and will be given in either 15 minutes or 20 minutes time slots depending on the number of students that enroll. Out of this time, the last 5 minutes are left for a question and answer session so that you have 10 minutes (15 minutes) during which to captivate, educate, and entertain the audience. Such a setup is very typical for presentations at scientific conferences.

In this course, you may either choose a topic from the list that I provided or you may propose your own topic. The proposal is due the first week of class and has to follow some general guidelines.

1. The talk has to be about an experimental technique, component device, or data analysis technique related to physics. (The list on the course webpage should give you a good idea what I mean by this.)
2. Keep the scope of material that is covered small. Remember, in a 10 minute talk you should convey one main idea, no more.
3. The talk can NOT be about a topic that you already know intimately, for example, because you worked somewhere over the summer using a particular experimental technique. This exercise is supposed to be educational.
4. If you pick a listed topic, let me know by the end of the first week your choice of topic and two preferred dates for the talk (see class/presentation schedule).
5. If you do not pick a listed topic, hand in a written proposal by the end of the first week containing the presentation title, your name, two preferred dates for the talk, and a few sentences about the device or technique that you are going to talk about. What does it do? What is the relation to physics?