

User's guide to your five minutes of numerical glory
(also known as the final course presentation format and execution)



Before your talk

You will be happy to know that you have been assigned a date for your talk as appears in the course website (if you can't make it to your date, please find someone to switch with and notify us).

Presentation should be **5 minutes long (*)**.

You need to prepare for these 5 minutes of glory. Please practice seriously and time yourself.

Choose a student in the class to serve as your mentor. Your mentor should hear your presentation at least a week before your lecture date, and help you improve your presentation. Practice should be at least a week before the presentation (yes, we are serious about the one week) and done on a real white board (we find it important to practice in real world settings). Most labs and lecture rooms will have place to do that. Send us an email who heard your practice talk, and one suggestion you took from it (you guessed right, a week before ☺). **

Examples of good presentations are available from 2013-4 course:

- [Spatial Information Density](#) (Niv Antonovsky)
- [Microscope resolution on a human scale](#) (Maya Shamir)

During and after class presentations (Feedback)

In class, you are expected to actively listen to talks of your fellow students. After each class (***), you need to choose one subject you want to briefly comment on. You can decide whether you want to comment on the presentation or on the vignette.

- If commenting on the oral presentation - It can be an idea for a cool follow-up, a suggested correction, improvement for presentation style etc. Send by email to the presenting student and CC to the course email. A list of the presenting students and their dates and emails will be on the course website.
- If commenting on the vignette – send to the person an email requesting he/she sends you the vignette as soon as it's ready (no need to CC course email on these arrangements). Read the vignette thoroughly, and send feedback to the person with CC to the course email, by one week after the talk. (****)

Two weeks after your talk you need to submit the 2-3 page final vignette, with incorporated feedback as you see fit, to the course website. Can (and should) be beyond what you presented in class.

To sum up, what you need to send us is:

- 1) Who heard your practice talk, and one suggestion you took from it (*at least a week before your presentation*)
- 2) After every class session, feedback on a talk/vignette you choose to comment on (a cool followup, correction, etc.) Should be sent also to the presenting student (*5 emails in total, one following each session, each due before the next session.*)
- 3) Final written assignment (*due 2 weeks after your presentation*).

Additional notes and tips from students of previous years

(*) If you have a creative idea for presenting the topic or the calculation (e.g. involving the audience with a multi-answer question, bringing an object for demonstration, etc.) you are entitled to extra time, max 2 mins.

(**) When preparing your presentation, you're basically searching for and reading all the background material you will need also for the written vignette, due 2 weeks later. Some people find it more useful to write the vignette first, hand it around to other students for feedback, then present a more "mature" calculation in class on their given date. Try to start writing the vignette (at least keep the references you used) as you prepare the oral presentation – this will help you be more focused (anything you won't have time to present but is cool and interesting can be added to the written part) and will save you time and effort ("hmm, now where did I get that useful number from?").

(***) You're exempt from giving feedback on the session date in which you are presenting.

(****) If a presenting person gets more than 3 emails asking for his/her vignette, he/she must decline and another presenter should be asked for their vignette. This is to ensure there is no "clustering" of feedbacks and increase the chance everyone gets feedback on their vignette.