Final Project + Presentation Guidelines

Ishikaa Lunawat

CS231A

05/30/2025

Overview

- Presentation
  - Logistics
  - Content
  - Tips
- Report
  - Logistics
  - Content
  - Example Reports + Template

Presentation Logistics

- No longer than 8 minutes with 1 minute for questions.
- Held in HAI space (first floor of Gates), from **1:00 PM - 4:00 PM** on **June 9, 2025**
- There is a survey asking what times you are available
- If there are enough open slots we can move all projects to present within the same time window
- If making a poster:
  - Use this template
- If making a video presentation/attending virtually:
  - Send an email to the staff mailing list
  - Make a Google slides presentation, shared with the CAs before presenting
- SCPD students:
  - Send a link to a 5 minute video instead (or by request)

Presentation Content

- Problem definition and motivation (1 min)
- Quickly: Previous work
- Your solution with some technical detail (1.5 min)
  - What datasets do you use? How did you wrangle them?
  - What parts of the class did you use?
- Your experimental setup and preliminary results. (1.5 min)
  - We understand and keep in mind there's still a few days until the report is due
- Conclusions
  - What did you learn?

Presentation Tips

- It's easy to put too much content into your talk.
  - We will cut you off/nudge at 4 minutes.
  - Have only enough content that you can talk slowly and still get through it
  - Make an effort to go slowly.
  - The best presentations only communicate the big ideas
- Communicate:
  - The goal of your presentation is to communicate your ideas to your audience
  - The most impressive talks are the ones you understand, not the ones you can’t follow
- No math
  - Math is almost impossible to get out of a talk, especially a short one
- Pictures really are worth a thousand words – when possible, show, don't tell

Presentation Tips

- Practice
  - Practice helps. Practice now will even help your presentation skills in the future.
- I like to write down exactly what I plan to say in the speaker notes
  - Then I ignore them while giving the talk
  - **Try not to read during your talk**
- Don't be nervous about questions
  - There will be 1 minute of questions after your talk – mostly brief, learning-based
  - Nobody's going to invalidate your work with their question
  - It's OK not to know
  - Statements like, "That's a good question," buy time to think or simply just ask for time to think!
  - Clarify the question by repeating it in your own words

Final Report Logistics

- Your final project report+code is due soon
  - Wednesday, 06/11/2025 at 11:59PM for both report and code
  - Late days **cannot** be used. Unfortunately, no credit will be given for late project reports.
- Submit **both**:
  - Report - PDF on Gradescope
  - Code:
    - Staff email: .zip format
      (OR)
    - Github: Link to a **PUBLIC** Git repository in report
- *(Optional)*: You can also submit cool videos, interactive visualizations, demos, etc.
- Your final write-up should be between 6 - 8 pages
- Use this LaTeX template.
  - You can also consider ones provided by top conferences or similar ones from:
    https://www.overleaf.com – free collaborators

Final Report Content

- **Abstract**:
  Concise summary of what your project is about. It should be 200 to 300 words. Mention the general topic area, why your work is novel, perhaps how it relates to the literature, and a brief overview of the results.

- **Introduction**:
  Provide a concise statement of the problem you're tackling. Succinctly describe the general approach you are taking. Which parts of the problem are you approaching? Possibly provide a brief outline of the paper's content and sections.

- **Background and Related Work**:
  Compare and contrast your work with related work in the literature. Why is your approach necessary?

- **Technical Content**:
  These sections detail sub-components of your solution. Be specific and go into detail. You might want to include equations, figures, plots, or tables.

Final Report Content

- **Evaluation**:
  How did you test the algorithms you developed? Start by describing the experiments you're performing and what kind of datasets you're using. How do you measure or evaluate your results? Then show the results of your experiments in detail. Show both quantitative evaluations (show numbers, figures, tables, etc) as well as qualitative results (images, example results, etc). Compare with approaches in the literature or sensible baselines if there are none.

- **Conclusion:**
  What have you learned? Make conclusive statements about the issues you faced. Admit any downsides with your solution approach. Suggest future ideas. Quickly outline any work still in progress.

- **References:**
  This is absolutely necessary. You should include any works that you build upon as well as existing work with similar goals. Cite software packages you use.

Report Examples

- Application of concepts in class to problem: Canny/Hough Estimation for Lane Detection
- Extension of existing paper: NeRF + Colmap
- Novel application of methods: Architectural Neural Sketches
- Another good example with a new application: Fitness Pose Correction

Report Templates

(links + other details in previous slides)

- Poster template [refer #7]: Final Project Template
- Presentation template [refer #3]: Google Slides Template

Thanks!