Final Presentation Guidelines

This presentation exercise serves two purposes: First, conference presentations typically involve papers that are in progress, so this will help get you used to presenting research that is not yet complete. Moreover, being prepared to present your final paper will help keep you on track and prevent you from starting your paper at the last minute. Second, the process of writing research papers is repetitive and involves multiple revisions that are responsive to feedback, such as the feedback you may receive after presenting at a conference. There will be time for Q&A after each presentation, as well as discussion and consultation after the presentations are complete. This will provide you the opportunity to learn how to receive and use feedback, as well as how to provide constructive feedback. Your presentation should be 15-minutes (not counting Q & A) and follow a conference style. Guidelines are provided below:

Introduction & Background (5-points)

Introduced concepts that were examined in study (namely DV and IV)

Explained theoretical framework that guided analytic design

Proposed research question

Discussed hypothesis

Note: Be brief and concise. The bulk of your presentation should be on what you did, not on what others have done. However, even in conference sessions designed around specific topics in specific subfields, not all participants will have as an informed background as yourself. Make sure that you give enough information for your data and methods to seem reasonable, and for your results and discussion to make sense. Suggested length: Maximum 5-minutes.

Data & Methods (15-points)

Described the dataset and how the analytic sample was obtained

Discussed all measures used (attention to key variables, can gloss over controls)

Explained analytic approach

Note: Your analytic approach must involve at least one GLM technique that we covered in this course. You shouldn't spend too much time here, just enough for participants to be able to interpret your results and critique your use of measures and analytic approach (e.g., are tables interpretable; does this measure reflect the concept discussed in the introduction; does the analyses address the research question and hypothesis?). Suggested length: Maximum 5-minutes

Results (15-points)

Discussed the descriptive statistics/analytic sample

Aside from rare circumstance, this should be very brief. The main point is to make sure that the results are interpretable. More details can be included in an appendix

Presented and discussed GLM results and included postestimation statistics

Sometimes full tables are not best but may want to include in an appendix. In the main slides Do NOT copy table output from Stata, but this is okay in an appendix

Note: This should be where you spend most of your time. Suggested length: Approximately 7 minutes.

Discussion & Limitations (10-points)

Explained results in relation to theory (background section) and hypothesis

Described limitations of the study with emphasis on data and analytic approach

Closed with major takeaway(s)

Note: It should be clear at this point that you are wrapping up. Give the takeaway message, and make sure the audience knows you're done. Suggested length: Maximum 3-minutes.

Q & A

Thoughtfully responded to critiques and feedback from participants