

Project Pitch

Group Presentation Rules

Presentations will have a strict 5-minute time limit for the group. There are no restrictions on the number of slides, or the format, but be aware of the time limit.

At least one MATH and one BCMB student must present in the presentation. (If you think you can effectively manage your time so that more members are involved, that is great - but keep in mind that you have a 5-minute time limit and 6-7 group members!). After the presentation, questions will be directed to randomly selected non-presenters, but according to discipline areas. At least one MATH-specific and one BCMB-specific question will be asked. Answers should be concise and brief.

We recommend using a single slideshow and sharing screen controls with each other via Zoom. This is more efficient than trying to swap the group member sharing screen. Remember each group has a 5-minute limit. You should practice sharing controls.

What To Include In Your Presentation?

You will decide your projects in Week 4.

BCMB Students: Identify a biological problem/question/disease etc that your group is interested in. This can be in any area, provided you can identify a protein or a small collection of proteins (or genes) that have a yeast homolog.

MATH Students: Provide a set of methods, which you found while doing a literature search, that may be used for answering the biological questions in your proposal.

In your pitch presentation:

- Provide a general background for the area of the project (We aren't expecting a deep dive into the literature and bioinformatics yet – this will be further developed as your project progresses, but do expect you to reference relevant original research)
- Tell us why you chose to investigate this project.

What was your rationale/motivation for selecting this project?

Why did you select those proteins?

- Provide some ideas for biochemical experimental approaches or interventions you might take to investigate this network – e.g. suggest a small molecule inhibitor, knockout in a model organism or how to block an interaction. This might evolve in different directions in the next two months, this is fine.
- Provide arguments why you are choosing the particular mathematical method(s). No in-depth mathematical description is required at this stage but cite the literature, and keep in mind the computational demands of your problem and describe how you will implement the methodology (provide details on software packages and/or implementation strategies).

Your presentation should be roughly 50:50 BCMB:MATH. Practice your presentation to make sure you can cover the key points in the time allocated and can understand how to request/hand over control as required.

Presentations will be in Week 5 via Zoom. Please also upload a pdf copy of your presentation in Canvas (1 per group is sufficient, make sure the file name includes your group letter).

Assessment

Presentations will be marked on how well you have defined your research question,

how thoroughly you have explored and compared options to investigate your topic, the clarity of your presentation to the audience and keeping to the 5-min time limit.

This group task is worth 10% of your final mark. There is a separate peer/self-reflection submission component worth 5% (to be completed after the presentation and details to be released next week)