

PSY 429: Oral Presentation and Full Written Proposal Guidelines

Oral presentation scheduled for last 2 weeks of class

Full written proposal due Sunday, December 9th, at 11:59 PM

Main parts of the oral presentation

1. Opening
 - Introduce the topic or give a clear and engaging example that illustrates the significance of your topic.
 - State the main problem your topic addresses and its significance.
2. Literature review
 - Summarize relevant background literature (theory and data) and be sure to also *interpret* what the findings mean for your proposed research. Make an argument for why this is relevant to or important for your hypothesis.
3. Overview of the present study
 - Address how your study is different from what has been done before (i.e., the literature you just reviewed).
 - Explain how the present study contributes to the past literature.
 - State the purpose of your study or your research question.
 - State your hypotheses with specific predictions.
4. Method (follow info required in Methods and Analysis Worksheet)
 - Study design
 - Participants
 - Materials/Measures
 - Procedure
5. Data analysis plan (follow info required in Methods and Analysis Worksheet)
 - What test(s) will you use and why?
 - What will the results be if one of your predictions are supported? (Note: Graphs help illustrate what your results would look like and are required.)
6. Discussion (see details in full written proposal section below)
 - Anticipated implications
 - Limitations
 - Future research
 - Conclusion

Main parts of the full written proposal

1. Abstract
 - Gives a concise summary (150–250 words) of the main points of your paper.
 - Typically provides your research question or topic, brief explanation of methods and (predicted) results, and implications or conclusions.
2. Literature review: Analyze and synthesize prior research. Make sure to draw connections to current research.
3. Method: Use Methods and Analysis Worksheet to help you write this section.
4. Data analysis plan: Use Methods and Analysis Worksheet to help you write this section.
5. Discussion: This part of your paper is completely new, so you should take some time to think about this section.
 - Anticipated implications
 - o If you find what you predict, what are the theoretical implications? How would your findings inform past research? Be sure to cite specific articles (often these

will have already been covered in your literature review) to show how your findings build on research that has already been done.

- What are the practical implications of your findings? How do you think these findings might contribute to real-world applications (e.g., parenting, school, close relationships, intergroup relations, government policies, etc.)?
- Limitations
 - Discuss potential limitations of your proposed study by explaining why these are potential problems for your particular research question. You should not just list limitations.
 - For main limitations, discuss how you think these limitations would be fixed.
 - Examples of limitations to potentially discuss:
 - Method limitations (i.e., issues with your measures, the participants you include/exclude, the procedure)
 - Interpretation limitations (i.e., alternative explanations for your results or confounds that could play a role in your study)
 - Generalization limitations (i.e., who may this not apply to and why?)
- Future research
 - Given past research and your current (anticipated) findings, what holes still exist in the literature?
 - What new questions may arise from your study that should be tested in the future?
 - As you answer these two questions above for future research, it is more effective to choose just a few questions and discuss them in some detail (rather than just listing many questions) to demonstrate why you think these would be important to address.
- Conclusion
 - What is the take home message of your study?
 - You can try to relate it to the example or problem raised in your opening to tie things together if you'd like.

Important notes for full written proposal

- Your entire paper must be in APA format.
- Reference section, title page, abstract, and figures (graphs and/or tables) are mandatory. All these sections must also be in APA format.
- The parts of your paper that come from past assignments should be improved based on feedback and your own efforts to carefully revise/edit.