

LING135 Article Presentation Assignment (20 points)

Once during the term you, in a group with up to two additional classmates, will present an article or chapter we read in class and subsequently lead class discussion. You may optionally choose to present a second article for additional points. Details for this assignment are below.

1. The Presentation

This is intended to be a general overview of your assigned reading and should take between 5-10 minutes. You should also plan to use slides to enhance your presentation. While the structure of your presentation has some flexibility, it will likely cover the following points:

- What is the main argument of the article/chapter?
- What background information is the author providing? This is typically in the form of a literature review. It can also be observations and/or motivations for a study, if one is conducted.
- What evidence does the author provide to support their argument? Did they conduct a study? Where did their data come from and how did they analyze it?
- Other considerations: What did you think of the article? What are its strengths and weaknesses? How does it relate to our class? What questions did it raise? What future work might be helpful?

Remember that your classmates will have also read the reading, so you do not need to cover every detail. Instead this should refresh everyone's memory in preparation for the discussion.

2. The Discussion

Following your presentation, your group will lead discussion with thoughtful questions and/or enrichment activities. The goal of your discussion should be to deepen our consideration of the article by drawing a connection to something outside of the text (this connection might be from your own life, a contemporary event, a recent news story, your own research, a comparison/contrast with something else we have read, etc.). You are encouraged but not required to bring in

multimedia (audio and/or video) that will illustrate your or the author's points. At a minimum, you should plan to pose a series of thoughtful, stimulating, and complex questions for your classmates to discuss.

You should plan for your discussion to take approximately: 15-20 minutes. However, if the conversation goes longer - that's great!

One of the goals of this assignment is to encourage you to think about the themes that emerge from each of our readings (and that cut across multiple readings) and to make sense of them in a more robust context relevant to your own lives. I urge you to read ahead and begin preparing well in advance for your presentation/discussion; you are also welcome to meet with me about your ideas, or to send me your presentation at least 2 days ahead of the discussion if you want my feedback.

[You can find the rubric for in-class presentations here.](#)