

# CS 8803: Large Language Models (Spring 2026)

## 2-Minute Madness: In-Class Presentation Instructions

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## Overview

This document describes the logistics and expectations for the in-class “2-Minute Madness” lightning presentations for CS 8803-LLM. Each presenter will prepare a short slide deck and deliver a timed, auto-advancing talk showcasing a recent paper related to large language models (LLMs) or closely related ML research.

## 1 Pick a Paper

Choose one of your favorite **long** papers from recent conferences (2025)—ACL, NAACL, EMNLP, ICLR, ICML, or NeurIPS. Select something within your technical wheelhouse that you can fully understand and present clearly. High-quality, well-written arXiv papers are also acceptable. For guidance on reading papers, see Jason Eisner’s advice: <https://www.cs.jhu.edu/~jason/advice/how-to-read-a-paper.html>.

Example conference links:

- ACL: <https://aclanthology.org/volumes/2025.acl-long/>
- NAACL: <https://aclanthology.org/volumes/2025.naacl-long/>
- EMNLP: <https://aclanthology.org/events/emnlp-2025/#2025emnlp-main>
- ICLR: <https://openreview.net/group?id=ICLR.cc/2025/Conference#tab-accept-oral>
- ICML: <https://openreview.net/group?id=ICML.cc/2025/Conference#tab-accept-oral>
- NeurIPS: <https://neurips.cc/virtual/2025/loc/san-diego/papers.html>

## 2 Make an 8-Slide, 2-Minute Deck

Create your own slide file (do not overwrite the shared deck). You have **2 minutes total**, including approximately **15 seconds for transition**. Slides will be set to auto-advance every 15 seconds. To hold for longer than 15 seconds, duplicate a slide  $N$  times to remain on it for  $15 \times N$  seconds. You may use up to **8 total slides** (not necessarily unique).

**First slide.** Include a screenshot of the paper's front page (authors, affiliations, venue, paper type) and put your name/initials at the bottom-right. You can use the first 15 seconds to get into position and begin your talk.

## 3 When and Where to Present

Presentations will be split by the alphabetical order of your **last name**. Copy-paste your slides into the corresponding shared Google Slides deck:

- **1/14:** last names A–Kh: [Google Slides](#)
- **1/21:** last names Ki–Sh: [Google Slides](#)
- **1/26:** last names Si–Z: [Google Slides](#)

## 4 Submission

Upload your slides to **both** Canvas and your assigned Google Slides deck by **2 pm on 1/14/2026**.

## 5 Pro Tip

**Rehearse!** Practice with 15-second auto-advance to ensure your pacing fits the time constraints.