Presentation Guidelines & Requirements

CSI5340 / ELG5214 – Winter 2026
In-Class Research Paper Presentations

Objectives

- Develop skills in **critical analysis** of research papers.
- Practice **oral communication** and **technical presentation**.
- Engage in **peer discussion and constructive feedback**.
- Learn to identify **strengths, weaknesses, gaps, and future directions** in research.

Format

- **Starting Week 3**, **four groups** (each with **2 students**) will present **one research paper each** during class.
- Each presentation: **15 minutes + 3–5 minutes Q&A**.
- Paper / topics will be assigned. Alternative papers can be presented with approval from the Prof. Bellinger.

Timeline

- **Share with your paired discussion group Sunday night before presentation (sooner is better)**:

  - Share in Brightspace discussion group:
    - **Annotated paper PDF:** the annotations enable the TA and your peers to quickly understand the motivation, justification and findings of the paper. It should also identify other key information you plan to include in your presentation.

- ▪ Written annotations:
  - ▪ Your questions/comments/analysis/thoughts
- ▪ Highlighting annotations
  - ▪ Objective/hypothesis/research question
  - ▪ Key contributions/algorithms/results
  - ▪ Anything else essential to understanding the work.
- ▪ **Full presentation slides (PDF or PPT).** Note a mostly complete draft is acceptable at this point. There must be enough content for your peers to provide meaningful feedback to help refine your understanding of the paper and your presentation.
- ▪ The group will be **deducted 20% per day** that they are late in sharing their presentation and annotated PDF.

- **Between Sunday and Tuesday class**:

  - ◦ Review the other group's synopsis and slides.
  - ◦ **Provide constructive feedback** and **clarifying questions** on the Brightspace discussion group.
    - ◦ Provide **at least 3 constructive comments** per presentation.
    - • The TA will review discussion for grading.
- ◦ **Final PDF and slides uploaded Brightspace Presentation Assignment** (at least 1 hour before class.)
  - ◦ PDF and Slides uploaded less than 1 hour before class will receive a 10% deduction

In-Class Process

- • **15 minutes presentation + 3–5 minutes Q&A**
- ◦ Two presentation will occur immediately before the break and two after the break.
- ◦ The instructor will grade the in-class presentation and note questions from the audience for participation marks.
- ◦ Student Q&A Session:
  - ◦ Presenters act as the paper's champion (defend the work).
  - ◦ The rest of the class acts as examiners.

- **All students should ask at least four thoughtful questions in-class throughout the term.**
  - **Guidance for Questions:** When acting as an examiner, your goal is to critically evaluate the paper. Good questions should:
    - Clarify assumptions:
      - What assumptions are required, are these realistic, etc.
    - Probe methodology:
      - Choice of framework or architecture, sensitivity to hyper-parameters, etc.
    - Challenge results:
      - Statistically significant, evaluation bias, etc.
    - Explore limitations and future work:
      - Extensions and scenarios would break the approach, etc.
    - Connect to broader context:
      - Relationship to other work, ethical and safety concerns, etc.
  - Tip: Avoid yes/no questions. Aim for questions that require reasoning and justification.

Grading Rubric (30% of course grade)

Criterion	Points
Comprehension & Technical Depth	20
- Accurate summary of paper	
- Understanding of methods/results	
Critical Analysis	30
- Strengths & weaknesses identified	
- Gaps & future work discussed	
Presentation Quality	30
- Clear slides, visuals, structure	
- Time management & delivery	
Peer-to-Per Discussion Group Engagement and Feedback	20
- Quality of questions & comments	

Best Practices

- Use **clear, concise slides** (avoid text-heavy).
- Include **diagrams** for architecture or algorithm flow.
- Highlight **key contributions** and **limitations**.
- Practice timing.
- Be prepared to **answer questions**.

Submission Checklist

- Annotated PDF
- Presentation slides (PDF or PPT)
- Upload to Brightspace discussion group by Sunday night
- Upload to Brightspace Presentation Assignment at least 1 hour before class
- Participate in peer discussion and feedback

Important Notes

- Late submissions will **impact your grade**.
- Plagiarism and academic fraud will be handled per university policy.