

8 Introduction to Module 8

You've been working hard on your group project this past week, collaborating with your fellow developers and creating a real-world front-end application that you'll be able to showcase to potential employers. At the end of this week, you and your group will present your application to your fellow students in a group presentation. It's important to ensure that your presentation is professional and concise. Use the following template and tips as you work on your presentation:

Presentation Template

You and your group will give a 10-minute presentation on your project, with about 7 minutes devoted to the presentation itself, followed by a 3-minute Question & Answer session. Remember to use this [Project Presentation Template](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1_u8TKy5zW5UlrVQVnyDEZ0unGI2tjQPDEpA0FNuBKAw/edit) (https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1_u8TKy5zW5UlrVQVnyDEZ0unGI2tjQPDEpA0FNuBKAw/edit). Make a copy of the template and add anything you think will improve your presentation. You can also use Powerpoint or any other similar presentation software.

Make sure that you address the following:

- Elevator pitch: A one-minute description of your application.
 - Concept: What is your user story? What was your motivation for development?
 - Process: What were the technologies used? How were tasks and roles broken down and assigned? What challenges did you encounter? What were your successes?
 - Demo: Show your stuff!
 - Directions for future development.
 - Links to the deployed application and the GitHub repository.
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Presentation Tips

Rehearse Your Presentation

It can be a challenge to talk about code in a clear manner. Rehearse what you are going to say as a group and be open to hearing feedback from others during practice time. Make sure to practice your transitions among speakers. This is by far the most important note. You must practice to ensure that all of the following also happens:

Use Technical Language

Use the correct technical language when presenting about your project. This relates to the previous point. You need to rehearse what you want to say to ensure you use the correct language. For example, `[1,2,3]` is an array in a deck, not an object.

Keep the Visuals Simple

Write only key bullets on your slides. This should be a reference for you throughout the presentation, not what you read from word-for-word. The slides should complement what you say, not overpower.

Include Every Group Member

Everyone in the group should participate in the presentation. There will be a time in your career when you need to talk about your code to others. This is a chance to present and receive feedback in a supportive environment.

Be Supportive

Even if there were bumps along the way during group work, the presentation is not the time to let the audience see this. Be polite, respectful, and inclusive of your teammates.

Be Engaged

The audience will reflect your engagement. Just because you are not talking, it does not mean you are not presenting. When your group members are speaking, make sure you are standing as a team and looking at either the presentation, the speaker, or the audience.

Demo Your Work

Practice what it is you plan to say when you are showing your product to the class. You won't have time to show each aspect of the product; pick what is essential to viewer understanding, and explain those features.

Focus on What Works and Your Next Steps

Don't focus on the things that don't work in your project; this causes the audience to lose interest. Instead, you can discuss what you would like to add to a second version. This shows that you are looking to continue to improve, but it doesn't draw the audience's attention to a bug you haven't fixed yet.

Presentation Skills

Just like all of the other skills you're learning in this course, presenting is a core professional skill, especially in the tech world, and it takes practice to

give concise and professional presentations. Use this as an opportunity to teach yourself the best way to present your project as you prepare for your future as a web developer. Here are some resources to help you get started:

- **Guy Kawasaki** (<https://guykawasaki.com/>) is an American marketing specialist, author, and Silicon Valley venture capitalist. He was one of the Apple employees originally responsible for marketing their Macintosh computer line in 1984, and he gives over 50 keynote presentations a year. He provides plenty of tips and resources to become a better presenter, including his presentation **The Only 10 Slides You Need in Your Pitch** (<https://guykawasaki.com/the-only-10-slides-you-need-in-your-pitch/>).
- **Nancy Duarte** (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNXXK1gSHGYqtS2XeDFKpV0A>) is a communication expert who has been featured in *Fortune*, *Time Magazine*, *Forbes*, *Fast Company*, *Wired*, *Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times*, *Cosmopolitan*, *LA Times*, and on CNN. Her firm, Duarte, Inc., is the global leader behind some of the most influential visual messages in business and culture.
- **Presentation Zen** (<https://www.presentationzen.com/>) is the website of Garr Reynolds, an internationally acclaimed communications consultant whose approach to communication takes the principles and lessons from the Zen arts in Japan to reveal simple, concrete tips for communicating.
- **Toastmasters International** (<http://www.toastmasters.org/Resources/Public-Speaking-Tips>) is a nonprofit educational organization that teaches public speaking and leadership skills through a worldwide network of clubs.
- **TED Talks** (<https://www.ted.com/talks>) is a nonprofit devoted to spreading ideas, usually in the form of short, powerful talks (18 minutes or less). Watching some of the most effective speakers in the world can give you an idea of how you should present.

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