Research proposal presentation rubric for 20.109

Category	Ele	ments	Weight (%)
Knowledge of subject matter:	•	convey a big picture understanding	70
	•	present the essential information	
	•	provide accurate description of the background	
Idea	•	emphasize the importance of the proposed work	(10)
	•	emphasize the novelty of the proposed approach	
	•	describe the what, why, and how of the approach	
Overview & Background	•	provide clear and concise description of the social and scientific context	(10)
	•	provide background details needed to understand the	
		research	
	•	describe and credit relevant prior work	
Research question & Aims	•	state research question / goal clearly	(10)
	•	provide well-defined research aims that are related to	
		answering the research question / accomplishing the	
		research goal	
	•	if appropriate, include overview of experimental	
		approach	
Experimental approach	•	provide a roadmap for the proposed work	(25)
	•	ensure the experiments address the research question /	
		goal	
	•	include relevant controls in the proposed experiments	
	•	include helpful experimental details regarding the	
		variables, tools, equipment, biological samples, etc.	
	•	show sample or mock data that illustrate the expected	
		results	
	•	describe alternate ideas as a back-up for failed	
		experiments	, .,
Societal impact	•	consider how the proposed work impacts society	(10)
		beyond scientific progress or discovery	
Project summary	•	reiterate the research question / goal	(5)
	•	emphasize how the proposed work addressed the	
		research question / goal	
Q & A:	•	convey understanding	5
	•	use background knowledge of the subject to provide a	
		logical inference for answers that are not readily known	
Organization of presentation:	•	provide logical, easy-to-follow narrative	5
	•	use transitions to connect the data as a coherent story	
	•	when appropriate, repeat key points / findings	
Effectiveness of slides:	•	convey main take-home message in the title	10
	•	use good balance of text and figures	
	•	ensure text and figures are visible to audience	

	•	use colors effectively avoid including excessive / unhelpful slides	
Effectiveness of delivery:	•	show collaborative effort with partner (present for equal	10
		time, avoid interruptions, and be respectful)	
	•	speak with confidence	
	•	verbalize main take-home messages	
	•	avoid excess wordiness and use technical language	
	•	limit gestures and avoid staring at the projection screen	
	•	stay within time limit (12 minutes +/- 30 seconds)	

Last updated 11/2022