Guide to grading the Technical Presentation for CS1173

Thesis: 10% of the overall grade. As a listener to a presentation, you want to know what you’re going to learn and is there a focus to the presentation. Same for a reviewer. If there is no thesis, it is missing. If there is a thesis, but the presentation doesn’t really address it, select Needs Improvement. If the rest of the presentation mainly supports the thesis, and has few tangents, then Needs a Little Improvement. If the presentation stays focused on the thesis, then Meets expectations. If really excellent and focused, then Excellent.

Supporting Graphs: 20% of the overall grade. Are there 4, easy-to-read graphs? Do they have the appropriate labels/legends/titles? Do they (and their explanation) make sense to support the thesis? For example, if the thesis is ‘Boys with lots of sleep are happier than girls with lots of sleep’, the graphs should mainly be about total hours of sleep and SSI. Caffeine shouldn’t be in there, except to show how it affects the total sleep or SSI. If missing more than 2 graphs – Missing. If the graphs are mainly there, but missing lots of parts, or less than 4 graphs – Needs Improvement. Use your judgement on the higher scores.

Statistics: 20% of the overall grade. Do the statistics used make sense? Does the student include at least 2 of the means, standard deviations and/or correlations? Do they support the thesis, or they just out there to count as a statistic? Only one used – Missing. Kinda support the thesis – Needs Improvement. Mostly support the thesis, Needs a little Improvement.

Supporting material: 10% of the overall grade. How does the student present data from other investigators? These need to be from technical sources, not generic websites. Missing, or most not from a technical source – Missing. Kinda presents some technical background – Needs improvement.

Citations: 10% of the overall grade. Are there 3 technical references? Not from generic websites, but with authors and journal names? One or less technical – Missing. 2 technical – Needs minor improvement.

Organization: 10% of the overall grade. How did this flow? Were all the pieces there? Way too short or too long? Missing important pieces? Review the Excellent example to see all the required pieces. Missing more than 3 – Missing. Missing 2 – Needs improvement. Missing 1 – Needs a little improvement.

Language: 10% of the overall grade. Does the student use the language of the science correctly? Does the student seem to understand the material, and can they explain it, as it applies to their thesis?

Delivery: 10% of the overall grade. Is the vocal quality clear? Is it obvious the student is not using a script?

Unusual problems: No audio – what I would do is turn the volume way up (and take off the headphones), and try it then – it might just be really quiet. If there is NO audio, then the student is not explaining anything. The graphs should not have complete sentences on them – just bullets at most – so the student is not demonstrating mastery of the material. The best the student should receive on Statistics, Supporting Material, Organization, Language and Delivery is “Needs Some Improvement”, and Missing on the Language.