

Writing Center Handouts

Senior Presentation Strategies

Content:

- New insights into topic
- Follows disciplinary conventions
- Is the research question or thesis clearly articulated?
- Provides relevant evidence to support conclusions
- Discusses results/findings – does your research prove or disprove your hypothesis/thesis?

Visuals:

- Relevant & clear visual aids
 - Includes the most significant figures and tables if needed
- Not too many words on slides – clear, concise
 - Text clearly reflects main takeaways and is written at a reading level the audience understands
- Readable without clutter
- Design theme of PPT is appropriate for topic

Delivery:

- Speaks without overreliance on notes (uses notes as guidance, but does not read off them)
- Makes eye contact with audience
- Ideas flow logically and transition between ideas is smooth
 - Clear beginning and wrap-up at end
- Adheres to time frame
- Adopt a tone and pace appropriate for your discipline
 - Don't rush! Speak at a pace where you can clearly articulate your words.
 - Be confident, not cocky!

Q&A:

- Prepare to rearticulate your key points!
- Be transparent about how much you know. Provide an evidence-based answer and connect it back to something you know.

Although these are guidelines, it is important to use your professor's evaluation criteria to guide your preparation. When in doubt, contact your professor for clarity.