

Presentation Suggestions

CSC 300

Turner

Overall

- First: say what you want them to know
 - make your main points very clear: one sentence, up front
- Develop and explain your points
 - give them the detailed arguments
 - exhibit the tradeoffs
 - analyze using your own logic
- Tell them what you just said to them
 - a short conclusion at the end to repeat your point!

If you use Slides, “Objects” of the Presentation

- Each slide should have a theme
 - don’t crowd the slide, really!!!
 - only a few lines, short sentences
 - don’t use small fonts to say more
 - subheadings OK, but not many
 - trust the audience and fill in gaps with your oral presentation
 - your speaking should be “value added”

Charts, Pictures, Graphs, Diagrams

- You can add a “dimension” to the text
 - color, change in font, arrangement of text ...
 - even the “form” of the paragraph can say things
- This **MUST** give “value added” or don’t do it!
 - think about this, does it make the point clearer than plain text?
 - does it help you to explain the main points?

Main Points

- Your presentation can only do so much
 - this can be hard to accept, but necessary
 - limits (constraints) give you power accomplish
- **ONLY** try to make 1 or 2 main points
 - the rest of your presentation **MUST** relate to those points outlined at the start of your poster
 - do a check, if it doesn't support your main point, throw it out

Some Questions you'd like to answer

- Why did you choose this topic?
- Why is it important to anyone?
- What is its place in computing ethics?
- What is its past all about? Its future?
- What are the critical limitations and benefits?
- Is there any experimental data out there?
- Who is doing this work Who is interested?
 - in industry and academia

Human Interaction

- People may be curious and ask questions
 - do invite your friends and faculty you like
- Prepare to explain your work to them (beforehand?)
 - target relatively smart laypeople
 - why is your thesis important?
 - how is it limited? (admit negatives up front!)
 - what is the future of your thesis
 - maybe you'll have to explain some history, too

Final Thoughts

- This is not a contest
- There are smart people with wounded egos
 - they may “attack”
- Your job is to give a “gift” to those who want to receive it
 - the truth of this statement is at the heart of the course
- You are at Cal Poly