

Presentation Guidelines

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1 Teamwork

You can choose if you want to present a paper alone or present one in a group of two students. If you present your paper alone, you will be graded based on your presentation. If you choose to present in a group of two, we will usually give the same grade to both members of a group. However, if we think that the contribution of one student is substantially larger than the other student's contribution, we might award different grades. Therefore, you should make sure that you split the material in a way which allows both students to demonstrate their profound understanding of the paper.

2 Duration

Groups of two students have an assigned time slot of 40 minutes. Students, who choose to present alone will have an assigned time slot of 30 minutes. However, the actual presentation should take about 10 minutes less than the assigned time slot to have room for discussions.

3 Content

Your goal is to present the main content of the assigned research paper. Thereby, keep in mind that you have been dealing with a specialized topic for a long period and now have a deep understanding of it. It is therefore difficult for your co-students to comprehend the whole breadth and depth of your paper in a 30/40 minutes presentation. You should therefore aim to present your paper in a precise yet intuitive manner. Be aware that the presentation time passes faster than you think. For this reason, you should avoid presenting too much material, and rather focus on clarity and comprehensibility of the economic model. It is perfectly fine to leave out parts or even complete sections of the paper, however you should make sure that you don't miss out on presenting the main findings of the paper by doing so.

Most papers are very technical. In your presentation, you should try to find a balance between technical details and economic intuition. While your focus should be on the latter, a sound understanding of technicalities is required to explain the intuition. Make sure that you are able to explain any equation you put on your slides.

4 Slides

Students are encouraged to prepare the slides in \LaTeX (a template is available on the website of the lecture). This approach leads to a more efficient writing process and hence, is widely used in the academic world. \LaTeX is, to some extent, a programming language for the creation of PDF files. It is unmatched when it comes to displaying mathematics and ensuring consistency in formatting and references. In order to use \LaTeX , you will need a distribution package as well as an editor. You write your code in the editor and the distribution package is used to typeset the actual document (code interpretation and creation of your PDF file). There are a great number of text editors, optimized for \LaTeX . However, we recommend the distribution package ‘MikTeX’ (to be found for free online).

Introductory books are available in the WWZ library. However, you should be able to find answers to almost every question online.