Presentation Guidelines

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1   Duration

Each student has an assigned time slot of 50 minutes. The actual presentation, however, should take around 35 minutes to have a 15 minutes window for discussion.

2   Content

Your goal is to present the main content of the assigned research paper. In doing so, keep in mind that you dealt with a specialized topic for a long period of time 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 short presentation. Hence, you should 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, avoid presenting too much material, and rather focus on clarity and comprehensibility of the economic model. In this context, it cannot be stressed enough that a clear characterization of the environment is absolutely key. It is perfectly fine to leave out parts or even complete sections of the paper as long as you make sure that you don't miss out on the main findings 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 the theory is required to explain the intuition. If you choose to work with equations and graphs make sure you are able to explain them.

3   Slides

Students are encouraged to prepare the slides in LaTeX (a template is available on the course website). This approach leads to a more efficient writing process and 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.