

PHY1600S - Effective Communication for Physicists.

Assignment 4

Research Presentations

This assignment proposes that you give a 10-minute presentation on a topic of your choice. I suggest some topics below that I think would be of most value to you, because they might serve as a template or draft for presentations you will give in your professional life. However, if you want to choose another topic that you think would be of more value for your own learning, please do so!

This assignment will provide three presentations per week for four weeks of class, and one on the fifth week. **On the week in which you are not giving a presentation, do the next written assignment according according to the schedule overleaf.**

Suggested Topics: The suggested audiences in the table below will give you an idea of the level at which you might aim your presentation.

**Please remember that one of your most important duties
is to keep your classmates awake!**

TOPIC	AUDIENCE
Your general field of research (Atmospheric, Optics, Condensed Matter, etc.)	non-specialist physicists
Your current or intended research (specialized within your field)	non-specialist physicists
An interesting topic in Physics or Mathematics or Chemistry or Engineering – this may be the same or different from your field of interest.	high school science students
Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Engineering, etc.	lay public
Science	high school students

**Please aim to complete your talk in 8 minutes,
leaving at least 2 minutes for questions.**

(10 minutes is the time usually allotted for a paper submitted to a professional conference. Your presentation in class must strictly follow this time limit.)

The time available implies the following constraints:

- Whether you use Power Point, or overhead transparencies, or the blackboard, PLEASE check out the system well ahead of the class.
- Be selective; better that your audience understands 100% of 10% of your topic than 10% of 100% of it!
- Practice at least once beforehand – twice is better! - to ensure that you finish on time.

Keep in mind that your purpose in giving these talks is (a) to give you practice in designing and presenting a talk, and (b) to entertain and instruct those members of class who may be ignorant of your topic.

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The table below lists the dates on which the assignments will be set for the rest of the term (1 and 2 have already been set).

Assignment 3, for example, is set on Tuesday 31st January; it should be in your Reading Partner's Inbox by midnight on Thursday 2nd February, returned to you by midnight on Friday 3rd February, and in my Inbox by 9 pm on Sunday 5th February. The final due date for credit is Tuesday 7th February.

The exception is Assignment 4, which is an oral presentation to be given in class one week after it has been set – i.e. one week after the date in the left-hand column in the table below. You will not have a written assignment for that week.

In the weeks in which you are not scheduled for an oral presentation, please tackle the next written assignment posted, as indicated in the table below. You may choose a Reading Partner who is tackling the same assignment as you, although this is not required.

DATES ON WHICH ASSIGNMENTS ARE SET. LAST DUE DATES ARE ONE WEEK LATER (assignment 4 is an oral presentation, to be given one week after the set date).					
GROUP	A	B	C	D	E
NAMES	Chav Conan Joseph	Garrin Kero Sylvia	Santiago Di Joe	Yao Xiaoyi Parisa	Erfan
DATES					
17 Jan	1	1	1	1	1
24 Jan	2	2	2	2	2
31 Jan	3	3	3	3	3
7 Feb	4	5	5	5	5
14Feb	5	4	6	6	6
READING WEEK					
28 Feb	6	6	4	7	7
6 Mar	7	7	7	4	8
13 Mar	8	8	8	8	4
20 Mar	9	9	9	9	9
27Mar	10	10	10	10	10

Date of Presentation	Presenters
14 February	Chav, Conan, Joseph
28 February	Garrin, Kero, Sylvia
6 March	Santiago, Di, Joe
13March	Xiaoyi, Yao, Parisa
20 March	Erfan