Best Practices for Creating & Delivering an Oral Presentation

Professor Turner
February 1, 2023
5:30 – 6:30 pm
Questions to Consider
<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STRENGTHS</td>
<td>WEAKNESSES</td>
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<tr>
<td>What are your presentation skills?</td>
<td>Where do you need to improve?</td>
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<tr>
<td>What sets you apart?</td>
<td>What resources do you need?</td>
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<tr>
<td>What are your good qualities?</td>
<td>How can your peers/colleagues/mentors help you to prepare?</td>
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<th><strong>O</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>OPPORTUNITIES</td>
<td>THREATS</td>
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<tr>
<td>What are your presentation goals/objectives?</td>
<td>What is blocking you, psychologically/experientially?</td>
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<tr>
<td>What are your learning goals?</td>
<td>What are factors outside of your control?</td>
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Connection to Broad Discipline

- Comprehensively places problem/question in appropriate scholarly context (scholarly literature, theory, model, previous research, or genre); or (for creative works) the work or performance clearly adds significantly to the genre chosen/discipline
- Include statistics (if applicable) and each slide should present different/new information.
- Subheadings are good for better organization.
Scientific Content & Merit

- Effectively defines background for constructs and highlights the importance of research.
- Identify keywords.
- States clear objectives, operational definitions, theory, and hypotheses.
  - A hypothesis or position is fully articulated and defended in the context of the issue presented; or (for creative works) a central purpose, focus, or essence of the work or performance is highly evident.
Scientific Content & Merit: Method

- The method/technique is appropriate for the question or purpose; data/sources/evidence are expertly presented; all elements of method/technique are fully developed and articulated
  - Provide information on the participants, materials/measures, and procedure
  - Also, include the type of research design and method
Example (Rosenberg & Kosslyn, 2014)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research method</th>
<th>Important feature(s)</th>
<th>Drawback(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Experimental design</td>
<td>Use of independent and dependent variables and random assignment allows researchers to infer cause and effect</td>
<td>Most etiological factors that contribute to psychopathology cannot be studied with experiments (but experiments are often used to study the effects of treatment).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quasi-experiments</td>
<td>Used when it is possible to identify independent and dependent variables, but random assignment of participants to groups is not possible; researchers can still infer cause and effect</td>
<td>Because random assignment isn’t possible, possible confounds are difficult to eliminate.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Correlational research</td>
<td>Used when it is not possible to manipulate independent variables such as etiological factors; researchers can examine relationships between variables</td>
<td>Results indicate only related factors, not causal factors.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Case studies</td>
<td>Often descriptive, but can use various research methods applied to a single participant</td>
<td>Caution must be exercised in generalizing from the sole participant to others; there are many possible confounding factors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single-participant experiments</td>
<td>An experiment with one participant (and so random assignment isn’t possible); cause and effect can be inferred</td>
<td>Caution must be exercised in generalizing from the sole participant to others; there are many possible confounding factors.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meta-analysis</td>
<td>A statistical analysis that combines the results of a number of studies that examine the same general question to determine the overall effect</td>
<td>It is difficult to estimate the number of studies that failed to find an effect and thus were not published and not included in the analysis; the studies analyzed are often not of equal quality but their results are nevertheless weighted equally in the analysis.</td>
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Scientific Content & Merit:

• **Results**
  - Discuss main analyses, correlations, and/or exploratory analyses (quantitative or qualitative specifications)
  - Include charts, tables, visual representation of data
  - *Evidence supports a mature, complex, and/or nuanced analysis of the problem; interpretation is explicitly linked to theoretical framework or scholarly model*
Scientific Content & Merit:

• **Discussion**
  - Provide a brief summary of study and you may mention your hypotheses
  - Discuss limitations
  - Ideas for future research and specific recommendations, given the results (context-specific)
How to Effectively Articulate Your Thoughts?
Double Check: Visualization & Organization

- Presentation is *strongly ordered (sequentially) and easy to follow*; visual elements (if any) are clearly arranged and synchronized with presentation.
- Presentations MUST be in APA format (include narrative or parenthetical citations when appropriate).
- Graphs/figures are clear and understandable.
- Content is well-organized.
- Audio/Visual components support the main points of the talk, if applicable.
Dress and Speak Professionally

- *Presentation or performance is of superior quality; delivery is free of technical errors*
- *Professional language is utilized.*
- Speaks clearly and at an understandable pace.
  - Stay calm.
- Limited use of filler words (“umm,” “like,” etc.).
- Speaker is within time limits.
- Speakers can answer questions professionally.
Questions?

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