

## Teaching Psychology Project and Symposium

### Overview:

For this project your assignment will be to teach a lesson to your classmates 10–15 minutes.

### Your presentation may consist of:

- Film
- A dramatic presentation
- A Crash-Course style video
- Presentation/Class Discussion
- TED Talk style
- Traditional Slide Deck Lecture

### Time Constraints:

- Presentations, Films, or Podcasts: no less than 10 minutes; no more than 15 minutes.

### General Requirements for Symposium Presentations:

- Your initial presentation must last at least 10 minutes, but should not exceed 15 minutes.
- You must develop an effective introduction for your topic (think “three-pronged thesis” in a verbal form).
- Visual media arranged according to professional standards.
- A **summary** (at the end) that highlights the main points for students (You must end your presentation with a summary of your main points).
- A presentation that avoids simply giving a “report” about something, and instead reflects a true “research” project in which the group has presented information relevant to the topic and that explains the “so, what?” factor—or why this type of presentation is of importance for our students to know. (i.e., reflects evidence of critical thought)
- ALL GROUP MEMBERS MUST PARTICIPATE IN THE PRESENTATION.
  - Students who are absent from the presentation will receive a 50% reduction in their individual grade. These points can be regained by completing an independent research project.
- **During Presentations: the audience is asked to log information that is presented and react to the content. This is for a grade. Students who are off-task or who use any electronic device during the presentation will receive a 10% reduction in their individual grade.**

### “PROFESSIONALISM:”

Group members are expected to maintain a “professional” demeanor and appearance during the presentation. This means

- Having rehearsed their presentation in advance.
- Not reading, verbatim, everything on the screen or other visual medium (i.e., note cards, papers).
- Not using offensive language in the presentation (i.e., referring to mentally ill people as being “crazy”)
- Refraining from interacting with the audience in a conversational way (talking with a member of the audience)
- Acting immature during the presentation (giggling, and generally not taking the presentation serious.)
- Employing the contemporary professional techniques of slide design, as taught in class.

### FINAL PRODUCT SUBMISSION—arranged as a PDF and submitted to TurnItIn.com at 8:00 AM on due date of all projects:

- Title Page in APA format.
- An Abstract Page
- The “meat” of your project (i.e., sentence outline)
- References Page (the final page of the product)
- “Handouts” printout of slides, 3 per page (for primarily slide presentations only; for other media see me)
- Everything double-spaced, 1 inch margins, in APA specified font size

### Possible Topic Starters:

- Split Brain Patients
- Procrastination
- The Psychology of Success
- Addiction: can an addict ever be truly rehabbed?
- Prejudice/Stereotypes/Discrimination —and how people are deluded about such.
- **How technology alters one’s mind**
- Psychology of Tech: effect on society
- Resilience
- “Sixth Senses” as real psychological phenomena or mistaken attribution?
- Why people choke under pressure or engage in self-defeating behaviors?
- Inside the terrorist mind: what drives the terrorist to commit horrible acts?

- Inside the sociopathic mind: what makes the sociopath a sociopath?
- Sleeping brain at work
- The hidden power of scent, and memory
- Giftedness: genetic luck or hard work?
- Savants/ADD/ADHD/Autism
- The Psychology of Lies/Liars/ Believing one's lies
- The Psychology of storytelling
- Love & Health- How partners heal/harm one another
- Daydreaming
- Fascination with Famous People
- Daydreaming
- The Psychology of Color
- Stress relieving methods- yoga/meditation, etc
- Shyness- Introverts versus Extroverts
- Left handedness
- Body image among Adolescent Dancers/Athletes
- Holding onto Cultural Identity, psychology of multiculturalism - mainstream
- Cyberbullying
- Criminals Need Mental Health Care
- The Psychology of Humor/comedians
- The Psychology of Cosmetic Surgery, addiction/Body Dysmorphic Disorder
- Subliminal Messages: do they work, why do they work, and are they dangerous?
- Physical/Emotional effect of Music
- Music and the Brain
- The power and effectiveness of advertising
- Eyewitness Testimony/Test your memory
- Do you believe in Magic?
- Selective Attention
- The Use of Animals in Experiments
- Positivism and Authentic Happiness
- Fortune telling/Barnum effect
- Sleep studies
- Hunger
- Universality of Facial Expression/ Body Language/Display Rules (culturally?)
- Androgyny
- Language
- Hypnosis
- Stress Research, effects on body/mind
- Art/Music & Mental Illness
- Brainwashing
- Memory- problems, diseases, Sensory Memory
- Learning styles
- Of Mind and Body- connection between the 2
- Man the fixer, Woman the Nurturer
- The Future of Warfare- psychological ramifications
- PTSD & Soldiers
- Video Games
- Cultural Bound Mental Disorders
- Psychology/ Mental Illness and Television Shows/ Movies
- Famous Psych Experiments- How they changed the world!
- Concussions & Athletes
- Rage
- Greed
- Anger
- Food for the Brain
- Animals in Psychology- training/therapy
- Generations- Baby Boomers, Generation X, Generation Y (Millennials)
- Know Thyself- Emotional Intelligence
- Careers in Psychology
- Delayed reaction and its impact on sens

→ Subfields of psychology - sports, education, organizational, child, counseling, neuroscience, music therapy, animal therapy, psychology of dance, etc.

→ tickling: how does it work, why, and other related issues...

→ Post traumatic growth

→ Theories and treatment of addiction, alcoholism, facebook or texting addiction?

→ Body language, animal training, effectiveness of medicine for the treatment of disorders, research on happiness, psychology of marketing, persuasion techniques.

→ Gottman's research on marriage, gender differences, or The 36 Questions that Lead to Love

→ Acts of heroes, applying psychology terms to current events

→ Love, relationships, divorce, children of divorce, challenges of being a step parent

→ helicopter parents

→ being ambidextrous

→ psychological impacts of poverty or extreme wealth

→ How dogs see, or bats, or cats...

→ alpha-males ...what that means in the animal world

→ Oxytocin, the cuddle hormone

→ dyslexia or synesthesia or laser eye surgery

→ Satisficers vs Maximizers – research by Barry Schwarz

→ speech impediments: stuttering, etc...

→ unique case studies

→ Traumatic brain injuries (lots related to football these days)

→ Tell a personal story related to psychology. Ex: psychology to terms about something in your life (ie: sibling with autism)

→ Interview a mental health professional or psych professor in your area of interest

→ Give a review and summary of a book. Possible Authors- Malcolm Gladwell, Daniel Ariel, Dr. Zimbardo, Oliver Sacks

Link to a list of popular psychology books:

<http://www.goodreads.com/shelf/show/psychology>

→ Website that has list of many topics:

<http://www.fenichel.com/Current.shtml> , <http://psychology.vanguard.edu/amoebaweb/>

Projects will carry a maximum of **100 points**. They will be evaluated based on degree of research, clarity of presentation, understanding of the concepts, creativity and originality. All projects must include a bibliography of sources (APA format). Think creativity and scholarship. Partner projects will be graded equally unless it is clear one member did not contribute equally.

**Checkpoints:**

- **Checkpoint Charlie #1: Proposal**
  - The proposal consists of the topic that you are interested in researching and a description of the topic. It additionally includes the reasons for the group's interest in researching this topic, and finally, it involves the group's initial research questions.
- **Checkpoint Charlie #2: Annotated Bibliography**
  - An annotated bibliography is a detailed listing of sources that includes not just the citations for the sources that you've consulted and included in your research, but also includes a summary of the source. For our class, you'll also include commentary regarding how the source may help during your research.
- **Checkpoint Charlie #3: Rough Draft**
  - The Rough Draft is literally a snapshot of whatever is completed for your assignment at the specified point. The purpose of this is for the group to receive any guidance to help ensure that requirements are being met.