

I. General Presentation Guidelines:

- Your presentation should last 5-10 minutes. In order to fit everyone in, the presentations cannot be longer than that and I may have to cut you off, if you exceed your time.
- Prepare 1-2 page handouts for me and the rest of your colleagues (there are 26 people in this class) with the following:

INTRODUCTION (2 minutes)

- Which topic are you researching?
- What are the main claims you are making?
- How is the paper organized?
- What are the main findings in support of your arguments?

BODY (4 min)

- List your claims and briefly discuss each:
(for some of you these will include a historical overview, the importance of a particular reform, or the significance of some new financial innovation; for some it will include the causes and cures for the respective financial crisis you are studying...)
- What lessons have we learned? What reforms are needed?

CONCLUSION (1 min)

- Summarize your main claims/findings

II. Content and Organization:

All good papers have an introduction, several sections constituting the body of the paper (which follow logically), and a conclusion.

Example:

1. Introduction: The Argentinean Crisis of 2001-02: Causes and Cures
2. The Argentinean Financial System: a brief Historical overview
3. What went wrong in Argentina: Causes of the financial crisis
4. The Financial Meltdown of 2001-02 and its ripple effects through the Real Economy
5. The Cures: Policy Responses to the Economic Collapse and their effectiveness
6. Conclusion

A good paper must first and foremost be well researched. Content is paramount, but if your paper is poorly organized, it will never communicate to the reader how well you have researched or understood the subject-matter. Thus, a paper's structure and organization are crucially important. You may have some brilliant ideas, but if you are unable to organize your thoughts well, all of your points will be lost and most likely overlooked by the reader.

Always begin your paper with an introduction. Your purpose in the introduction is twofold: to clearly state what your objective is and what your claims are. Second to tell the reader *how* you plan to support your claims. A good way to organize the introduction is to explicitly state what you will say in each section of the paper to follow: "In Section 1, I do so-and-so; in Section 2, I

do so-and-so...". Sometimes you may not be sure of all the claims you will make in the paper or even if you initially wanted to make a certain claim, you find out that there is little supporting evidence. Often the process of writing and researching the paper itself reveals new ideas or new claims which you may want to pursue without intending to do so at the very beginning. For this reason, some people find it useful to write the introduction last.

The remaining paragraphs of your paper (except the conclusion) should each make one clear point; it should be obvious, from the structure of your paper, how that point supports the thesis of your paper. Details belong in these paragraphs, not in the introduction.

Use the conclusion only to provide a brief summary of what you have accomplished in your paper. It should be a reminder of what you have proved and how you have proved it. Do not offer new evidence or new ideas in the conclusion. Do not end the conclusion with a question.