

Biochemistry 911 (Molecular Mechanisms of Hormone Action)

- Presentation Guidelines -

General

The presentation should be **25-40 minutes** long. The preferred medium is a Powerpoint presentation. You should set up early, and check that the projection equipment works (it does fail sometimes!). Should you encounter any problems contact the media lab (262-0622, medialab@biochem.wisc.edu).

Introduction

When presenting keep in mind that the audience has varied backgrounds. Therefore, you need to introduce the paper well enough to support the subsequent data. Assume that the audience knows only very little. Pictures often work much better than words; use them to make your points.

Figures

Present each figure in the paper. Some figures will require that you first explain the methods used. It is helpful to have either a title or a conclusion on the figure slide to understand the point the authors are trying to make. Ensure that the figures are large enough and not too busy. You can always split them up if they are made of multiple sections.

Conclusions/Summary

Summarize the major findings of the paper to remind the audience what you just told them.

Critical evaluation

Evaluate the paper as if you were a reviewer for a journal. Start by stating what the authors were trying to show, then analyze the following:

- Were the experiments well designed to prove the authors' points?
- Were the methods used appropriate?
- Could better methods have been used?
- Were the experiments well controlled?
- Are the data physiologically significant?
- Did the authors make the correct conclusions according to their data?
- Were the experiments repeated and presented with error bars?
- What other experiments should have been carried out to support a conclusion?

Finish by suggesting improvements to the paper, and how you feel the body of work contributes to (or detracts from) the field as a whole.