

KAHS Graduate Seminar F/W 2009-2010
Guidelines and Podium Presentation Outline

- Attendance at KAHS Graduate Seminar is mandatory for all MA/MSc students in their first year and all PhD students in their first and second years. Attendance is strongly encouraged for all other graduate students.
- Students attending the Graduate Seminar presentations are required to fill out evaluation forms. These will be used to provide feedback to presenting students and to track all students' attendance.
- Students are encouraged to actively participate in the seminar by asking questions during the Q&A session following each presentation. Questions from students will be solicited prior to soliciting questions from faculty members.
- All MA/MSc students need to present in their 2nd year. PhD students need to present twice during their degree, once in their proposal stage and once in their final research stages – usually 2nd and 3rd/4th years.

Presentation Guidelines:

- Abstracts summarizing your presentation (maximum of 300 words) are due the Monday prior to the Friday presentation. Abstracts are to be sent to Will Gage (whgage@yorku.ca).
- Presenting students must upload their presentations 15 minutes PRIOR to seminar start time (i.e. at 2:45 pm).
- Please prepare your podium presentations using PowerPoint. You should have a *minimum font* of 28-30 pt.
- In preparing for your presentation, ensure that you adhere to the following specified time limits:

MA/MSc - 15min podium PPT presentation + 5-10min Q&A

PhD - 20min podium PPT presentation + 10-15min Q&A

The outline below can be used to help graduate students prepare for their Graduate Seminar Podium Presentation. Students may wish to modify the outline to accommodate different topics and research methods. Students should meet with their supervisors to plan for and to approve PPT presentations.

I. *Introduction*

- Include background information needed to understand the topic.
- Refer to published literature on the topic.
- Present information on mechanisms the audience needs to understand the project.
- Highlight any hypotheses and /or controversies the audience needs to be aware of.

II. ***Rationale***

- Present the rationale for undertaking the study.
- Refer to current gaps in the literature and how this research project addresses these gaps.
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III. ***Objectives/Purpose***

- What is (are) the main objective(s) of the study?
- What is (are) the question(s) you are trying to answer?
- Usually, the above information is included in one or two sentences.

IV. ***Hypotheses (optional)***

- Outline your hypotheses regarding the results.
- Highlight why you generated these hypotheses based on the literature.

V. ***Methods***

- Present subject/participant/population characteristics. Clarify inclusion/exclusion criteria and differences between groups if appropriate.
- Outline study design and protocol (e.g., testing protocol, measurement tools, cell lines)
- Clearly outline independent and dependent variables, why these particular variables were chosen, and how they were operationalized.
- Provide details of analyses (e.g., tests, calculations, methods, examples).

VI. ***Results***

- Clearly outline the findings of the study.
- Highlight the most important points / take home message.
- Consider that figures and/or tables are often more expressive and more powerful than text in conveying findings.

VII. ***Discussion***

- Briefly summarize the main findings of your study.
- Highlight and discuss any discrepancies in your findings. Use the scientific literature to explain why such discrepancies may have occurred.
- Contextualize your research within the field by discussing how it advances science and/or knowledge. Again, use the scientific literature to bolster your point.
- Discuss the strengths and limitations of your study.
- Explain the relevance/significance/implications of the study to the current state of knowledge in the field.
- Outline directions for future research on this topic.

VIII. ***Conclusion***

- Present a conclusive statement that best represents the results of your research.

IX. **Referencing**

- If a reference applies to the whole slide, cite the references at the bottom right of the slide.
- If a reference applies to only one portion of the slide, the references should appear immediately after the appropriate sentence/paragraph, preferably bottom right.
- You should cite the references using the last name of the first author (and “et al” if there are more than 2 authors; both authors if there are only 2 authors) and year of publication. The abbreviated journal title, volume, and page numbers may also be included.

For example:

Burke DB, Sliver S, Holt LE, Smith-Palmer T, Culligan CJ, Chilibeck PD. The effect of continuous low dose creatine supplementation on force, power, and total work. *Int J Sports Nutr Exerc Metab* 2000;10:235-44.

Would appear as: *(Burke et al, Int J Sports Nutr Exerc Metab 2000)*

OR

(Burke et al, Int J Sports Nutr Exerc Metab 2000;10:235-244)

OR

(Burke et al,2000)

Disclaimer: Students should meet with their supervisors for final approval of the content and structure of their podium presentations. Students should follow guidelines/policies as prescribed/accepted by their field of study.