<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Elements of a strong presentation</th>
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</table>
| Knowledge and explanation of subject matter: | • relates proposal to topics covered in 20.109 when appropriate  
• sufficiently explains concepts/methods/etc. not covered in 20.109                                                                                                                                                             |
| Idea                                         | • the what, why, and how *(are you going to do it)* of the idea are each clear and compelling  
• the project scope is reasonable  
• exhibits novelty/creativity                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Overview                                     | • clear and concise description of the central question to be investigated, *and* its significance                                                                                                                                 |
| Background                                   | • sufficient for intelligent non-experts to understand the proposal  
• describes/credits relevant prior art                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Problem and Goals                            | • well-defined hypothesis and goals                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Details/Methods                              | • staged roadmap for investigation  
• the experiments address the central question and include good controls  
• methods needed to understand the predicted outcomes are explained, without unnecessary detail                                                                                                                                 |
| Outcomes                                     | • show sample data if experiment works (summarize in tabular form, make mock graphs, show published images from similar work, etc.)  
• describe alternate assays, questions, and/or information still gained if experiment does not work                                                                                                                                 |
| Resources                                    | • consider specialized resources needed (e.g., plasmids, cell lines, access to large/costly equipment)  
• detail is good, but not needed for every resource, nor is detailed budget info. required                                                                                                                                 |
| Impact and Summary                           | • reiterate question, detail its importance to science and society                                                                                                                                                                |
| Q&A                                          | • answers that convey understanding  
• admit when you lack knowledge, tell how you would approach the question based on what you know                                                                                                                                  |
| Overall organization of talk                 | • content introduced in logical, easy-to-follow sequence  
• main points emphasized, repeated  
• transition statements between ideas                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Overall effectiveness of slide text/visuals  | • slide titles convey key message  
• good balance of text and figures  
• text/figures large enough to be seen  
• considered use of color  
• not too many or too few slides |
| Overall effectiveness of delivery                          | • all elements of a good individual presentation  
|                                                        | (effective use of voice, body, and language), plus:  
|                                                        | • collaborative effort: partners speak for equal times,  
|                                                        | don’t interrupt each other, take turns being “on stage”  
|                                                        | • overall appears rehearsed, with smooth transitions  
|                                                        | between speakers, talk is cohesive  
|                                                        | • review/preview structure of talk  
|                                                        | • 12’ length (+/- 0.5 min)  
| Talking points                                          | • main points to be made during talk (can be  
|                                                        | incomplete sentences)  
|                                                        | • well thought-out transitions  
|                                                        | • best work will include supporting detail, in case  
|                                                        | needed for Q&A |
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