

At the end of fall quarter all students will give oral presentations in groups of three or four on a topic from the scientific literature relating to the theme of the program: The Structure of Life. The purpose of these presentations is to give you an opportunity to read and explore current scientific research and to distill your understanding sufficiently to present your findings to the class in a well-organized oral presentation.

Choice of Topic:

The faculty will choose approximately twenty articles from the popular scientific press or abstracts from scientific journals that relate to the theme of our program. During the week two Tuesday afternoon workshop time we will introduce these articles and the presentation guidelines to the class. You will have an opportunity to discuss aspects of these articles in small groups. By week four of the quarter all students should have chosen a topic based on one of these articles and formed groups of three or four students who will present on the same topic.

Timeline:

- Tuesday, Week 2: Introduction to presentation assignment and articles
- Tuesday, Week 4: Signup on the program website in groups of 3 or 4 for a presentation topic. Participate in a library workshop to conduct a primary literature search on this topic. Submit a one paragraph summary of your topic including a list of references you have found relating to that topic.
- Tuesday, Week 8: Submit a detailed outline of your presentation plan, including figures and graphs.
- Wednesday and Thursday, Week 10: Presentations

Presentations:

Each presentation will last 15 minutes, and will be evaluated by your peers. The peer evaluation form gives a good indication about what is expected in a well-prepared presentation and should serve as a guide when preparing your presentation. Following your presentation you will write up a reflection on your presentation that will include comments about how the presentation went, the role of each member of your group in preparing and delivering the presentation, and a response to the assessment of your peers.