Presentation Guidelines and Requirements for COMP / ELEC / STAT 602

The instructor will give an introductory lecture for each major topic, after which students will take turns presenting and critiquing articles assigned by the instructor. Demonstration of thorough understanding, rigorous presentation of algorithms, evaluation of scope, significance, applicability will be expected. Demonstrations or evaluations of capabilities of published algorithms or possible improvements will, in many cases, require the presenter's own simulations. Every student will be required to read all articles/handouts and expected to participate in the discussions. Simulations can be done in Matlab, R, or C, using freely downloadable software, or using the instructor's research software (as applicable).

Presentation guidelines

1. State goals, context and significance: what and why is being discussed, how it contributes to the field / subject (when applicable, how it connects to things we learned earlier).
2. Describe the technical approach (how the goals are accomplished). This should be rigorous and complete, without unnecessary details.
3. Interpret the facts / results presented, compare with other known or competing techniques where appropriate. If it adds value, run simple simulations to verify the published results, better understand or reveal insights; or answer some question you wanted to explore.
4. Make clear visuals: Choose the words carefully in titles, bullets, annotation of figures, etc. to form a coherent "story". Make sure fonts in figures, tables and equations are legible, axes labeled, legends provided, etc.
5. Check your English.
6. Give proper credit, in proper form, to sources (published papers, figures from papers, web sites, data, code), any individual whose work (figures, simulation, ideas, ...) you are using in your presentation.
7. Provide a list of references (at the end) for the works / sources cited throughout the presentation.
8. Engage the audience. Since they were required to read the paper you are presenting, challenge them with a few questions.

Presentations will be graded and feedback given to students. After feedback, students will be required to upload a revised version into a designated location in Canvas along with related code (if applicable). Presentation files should be named according to this convention: NML602_Pxx-YourLastName_[firstauthor&year of paper].ppt or NML602_Pxx-YourLastName_[firstauthor&year of paper].pdf, where xx is to be replaced by the number of the presentation by the student, numbering from 01. Example, NML602_P03-Merenyi_Kohonen1990.ppt. If the subject of a presentation is not a specific paper, then the subject should be given instead of [firstauthor&year]. For example, NML602_P05-Merenyi_SOMmagnification.ppt . Each student will upload his or her presentations under the same "Presentations" assignment throughout the course. The presenter must use a commonly available software to produce the presentation (pdf, ppt, Word, beamer, ...) and upload in a format that can be marked up electronically (pdf or ppt preferred).

The main criteria for grading presentations are below, with approxiamate weighting (points) in parentheses. Thus the maximum possible score is 20.
   a) Capturing the essence of a paper or the given subject clearly and correctly (4)
   b) Demonstration of thorough understanding, quality of evaluation, criticism, insights; discussion / demonstration of merits, pitfalls, etc. This includes experiments run by the presenter where applicable and where it meaningfully adds to demonstration and insight (9). Bonus points may be awarded for especially insightful demonstrations / simulations, or good simulation code.
   c) The quality of the visuals including correct references and credits (2)
   d) Correct use of English; correct citations / references (2)
   e) Handling questions, and generating discussion with audience (3)