

Molecular Ecology and Evolution
Fall 2001
Oral Presentation

Format of Oral Presentations:

Oral presentations are scheduled during the last two class periods. Presentation should be 15 minutes on a topic in Molecular Ecology. You must have the topic approved in advance by me. **Please submit your title to me by November 27.** The general format should be a description and evaluation of broad topic and not a single paper (e.g., molecular clocks, phylogeography of the southeast United States, taxonomy or 3-toed wombats, phylogeography of near-shore marine invertebrates, speciation rates, population subdivision in high-desert environments, etc.). Your goal is to inform and enlighten your fellow students about the topic. You will be the expert (since you have done the background reading). As a guide, you will likely need to review at least 5 published resources for the core of your presentation. Do not just present a single review paper on the topic.

You may use any presentation technique that you wish (dry board, overheads, slides, flip-charts, computer PowerPoint presentation, etc.). I will have **ONLY** the dry board and overhead available unless you tell me in advance that you need other equipment. Plan to talk for 12 - 13 minutes and leave 2 - 3 minutes for questions. The class will grade your performance and your final score will be the mean (excluding obvious outliers).

Your presentation will be scored according to the following criteria:

Style (body language, speech patterns, expressiveness, etc.): 10 points

Description of the topic/problem: 20 points

Background information: 20 points

Organization: 20 points

Clarity of details: 20 points

Duration: 10 points

TOTAL: 100 points