

## Experts for the Day Presentation

**Goal:** The main goal of this assignment is for you to gain experience being an “expert” while presenting your work to an audience of peers.

**Description:** Each team will present a useful, educational exercise to last 30 minutes. Experts for the Day presentations will be scheduled for class sessions throughout the semester and will correspond to the topics that are being discussed that day. I will give each group an article or two and some potential ideas for your presentation. You will want to read the course readings for your presentation day several weeks in advance of your presentation so that you can determine what topic(s) you’ll cover in the presentation. At the end of the class session prior to your presentation you must meet with the professor to discuss a detailed outline of your plan which should be very close to your final draft. Please consult me earlier to discuss ideas for the presentations.

**Presentation Ideas:** Your team should choose a creative presentation format to accent course material as long as it is not entirely a traditional lecture style format. Examples include:

Putting together a role play	Facilitating a group exercise
Playing an educational game	Inspiring a class debate

For your presentation you should focus on aspects of your topic that you believe to be most relevant to the class. You will need to provide an exercise that focuses on the application of the theories to prove to the professor and to your audience that you have thought seriously about what the topic can teach about media and politics. The more creative your analysis of specific topics, the better. It should be very activities-based in nature and serve as a way to involve class members and emphasize the material without only lecturing on it.

**Other details:** This assignment will require coordination outside of class. Do NOT divide the presentation into sections and have each team member write part of it – this should be a true team effort and should be presented as a cohesive piece (in “one voice”). It is imperative to the success of the presentation that both team members spend time determining 2-3 main issues or skills that you want your classmates to take away from your session. Please arrive early for class on the day of your presentation. If you have special technology needs (e.g., want to have internet access, sound, etc.), let the professor know well in advance. Each Experts for the Day presentation will be evaluated by both the professor and classmates (see evaluation sheet in this handout).

Some of the questions you should ask as you develop your Experts for the Day presentation:

- Is the presentation focused on a specific topic (we don’t want to cover too much material and overwhelm our audience members)? For example, what are the 2-3 main issues or skills we want our classmates to learn from our presentation?
- Is our presentation well organized? Is the presentation as a whole cohesive?
- Will we keep the attention of the class?
- Have we remained within the allotted presentation time (30 minutes)? We need to also factor in time for class discussions, moving classmates around during activities, etc.
- Are we effectively using audio-visual aids/posters/handouts/displays/etc.?
- Have we prepared enough to make proper use of notes, to have good eye contact, and to speak at an appropriate, audible speed?

- Have we “test run” the electronic equipment (if any) before our actual presentation? Have we contacted the professor with any special technological needs? Do we have a backup ready in case we encounter technical difficulties?

## Experts for the Day Presentation Grading

All Experts for the Day presentations (regardless of the format type selected) will be graded based upon the following criteria:

- **Depth** -- level of scholarship (debriefing of exercise as it relates to specific media theories and concepts).
- **Breadth** -- the extent to which the presentation extends beyond the material presented in the course readings.
- **Precision and organization** -- accuracy, logic, provision of detail, and logical ordering of topics; English language usage, grammar. Does the audience know what you are talking about? Does the audience have any take-home points from your exercise and discussion? What will they remember?
- **Proportion** -- balance between theoretical and conceptual ideas and concrete media and politics applications.
- **Personal thoughts** -- insightful, original comments that represent the unique point of view of the group.
- **Creativity** -- the extent to which your group uses examples, exercises, media, skits, or other approaches that capture the interest of the class.
- **Presence** -- ease of presentation as evidenced by familiarity with the materials and the content of the presentation (for example, smooth transitions between speakers, eye contact, responsiveness to audience).

## Experts for the Day Presentation Evaluation Form

1=strongly disagree, 3=neither agree nor disagree, 5=strongly agree

The presentation was well-organized.	1	2	3	4	5
The presentation was accurate and provided appropriate detail.	1	2	3	4	5
The main issues/concepts in the presentation were clear.	1	2	3	4	5
It was clear to me what the take-home points were.	1	2	3	4	5
The topic presented went beyond course readings for today.	1	2	3	4	5
The presentation kept the attention of the class.	1	2	3	4	5
The presentation lasted approximately 30 minutes.	1	2	3	4	5
The presentation effectively used displays or handouts.	1	2	3	4	5
The presenters used good eye contact.	1	2	3	4	5
The presenters spoke audibly.	1	2	3	4	5
The presentation balanced theory and application.	1	2	3	4	5
The presenters gave insight to their topic.	1	2	3	4	5
The presentation was creative and gave good examples.	1	2	3	4	5
The presenters were responsive to the audience.	1	2	3	4	5