

Criteria for Good Presentations

Speaker

Audible and intelligible
Uses understandable and relatable language
Engaging
Enthusiastic
Prepared for questions
Clearly expresses concepts on each slide
Key points are emphasized
Adjusts to audience and/or distractions

Slides

Simple
Legible
Text is for audience, not speaker
Aesthetically pleasing
Convey relevant or necessary information
Complex concepts are built iteratively
Axes and colorbars are labeled
Jargon avoided
Match what speaker is saying
Each slide has a purpose
Overall arc of talk is evident

Content & Structure

Talk is “coherent”, i.e. unified by a central theme
Speaker is familiar with material
Talk is proper length at a normal pace of speech
No superfluous information
All ideas discussed clearly relate to each other and the theme

Source: Dr. Toby Ault (<http://ecrl.eas.cornell.edu/node/10>)