

Stat 256 Paper Presentation Guidelines

You will present two published papers in a video presentation, one due October 15 and the second due November 14.

The goal of this assignment is twofold: 1) engage thoughtfully with academic research in causal inference and 2) hone your presentation skills.

The papers must be related to causal inference and published after 2012. At least one of the papers must be a journal paper. Recommended journals include Annals of Statistics, Journal of the American Statistical Association, Journal of the Royal Statistical Society Series B, Biometrika, Annals of Applied Statistics, Journal of the Royal Statistical Society Series A, Journal of the Royal Statistical Society Series C, Biometrics, Econometrica, Journal of Econometrics, Data & Policy, Journal of Machine Learning Research, PNAS, Science, Nature. Other recommended venues are International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS), International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), and the ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAcCT). Your recorded presentation should be 20 minutes per paper.

You should use slides or a virtual whiteboard during your presentation to provide notation, mathematical expressions, graphs, figures etc.

Email the presentation to the instructor directly. You are welcome (but not required) to share your presentation on your website and/or youtube.

Grading criteria:

Your presentations will be evaluated on the following criteria:

1. **Content:** You should clearly describe and motivate the problem setting and situate the research in the context of prior work. You should spend a significant portion of the presentation describing the proposed contribution in the paper conceptually and in mathematical detail. You should also report any empirical findings. You should engage critically with the paper, offering your own commentary on the novelty, strengths, weaknesses, and significance of the paper.
2. **Presentation:** Your presentation should be accessible and informative to someone who has not read the paper but has sat through the causal inference course. You should emphasize key aspects of the research, providing intuition/motivation when these aspects may be complex or non-obvious. Make sure to define new terms, use consistent language, and appropriately pace the talk. Have fun with the presentation and your audience will feel engaged!
3. **Relevance:** Your paper should meet the above criteria (e.g., on causal inference, published after 2012, etc). If not, you will lose points for relevance.