

## **Presentation/Leading Class Discussion**

This assignment is designed to give you some practice critically evaluating research methodology and interpreting the research findings in light of that evaluation.

You will be required to sign up for an in-class presentation date. When the People tab becomes available, please click on "People", then be sure to click on the tab for your section. Select and open a "Presentation Group", by clicking on it. Slide your name from the list on the left into the group list. Note that there is a limit of 2 to 4 people per group. These limits have already been assigned to presentation dates based on the readings. They are not negotiable.

Your group will lead the discussion of the assigned readings and engage the class in activities related to the topic of the readings for 1 hour.

1. Using slides for your presentation, summarize 1 of the readings. The reading you choose must be an original research paper in which data was collected and analyzed (check with me if you are unsure if your selection fits these criteria). The summary should include the background or motivation for the study, the main research question (s) (for quantitative research) or identify the central phenomenon (for qualitative research), the main findings and interpretation of those findings.
2. Your summary should include a critical analysis of the paper. What are the strengths and challenges of the research methodology? What is (are) the take home message (s) of the research? Do you agree with the author's interpretation of the study findings? How might the research have been improved?
3. Prepare 2 clear questions to be used as the basis for discussion. Each discussion question should be placed on a separate slide that can be projected in class for reference during the discussion. Discussion questions can be based either on a specific reading or on all of the assigned readings for that week (assume that everyone has done the readings). The aim of these questions is to generate further discussion of the

research and/or the topic in general.

4. Examples of additional activities (in addition to your summary and discussion questions) that you can use to help keep the discussion going include: showing a brief, relevant video (no more than 10 minutes) and then discussing it, organizing an in class debate, briefly reviewing a current policy or a recent decision made by educational authorities (e.g. the Ministry of Education, the authorities at a treatment centre you are familiar with), conducting a mini survey and then discussing the results, making links to the readings/lecture topic and soliciting input regarding the decision/policy from your fellow students. What, if any, are the implications of the research findings for practice/policy? How could current practice/policy be changed or improved given the research findings?