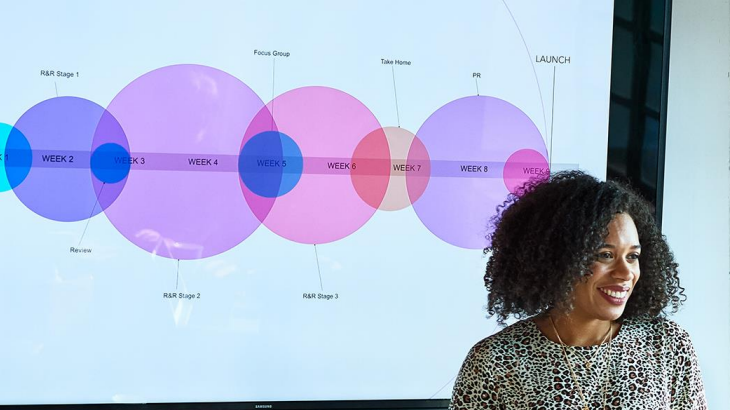




How to Present Your Research

Undergraduate Research Hub



SRC Outline

- **Part 1**

- Formatting and Design Tips
- Organizing Your Presentation
- Presenting
- A Few Final Tips
- Q&A

- **Part 2**

- SRC Info
 - Q&A
-



Formatting and Design Tips



Formatting and Design Tips (X)

- When presenting, remember that slides are not the presentation. Slides guide the presentation. You are giving the presentation, not reading it.
- Keep the presentation simple. One way to do this is to use bullet points to highlight key information that you will talk about, such as terminology, demographics, data, findings, etc.
- You want to use minimal text. Again, you are not trying to read the presentation to the audience. You want the audience to pay attention to you. If they have to read a bunch of text, they will focus on the presentation and ignore everything you're saying.
- Additionally, if you try to write a lot of information, you may reduce the font size which can make it difficult for people to read. They will again try to focus on trying to read the small font, rather than focusing on you.
- Remember to use a standard font. Don't use anything too fancy or script-like. This can be hard to read. The goal is to simplicity to prevent the audience from straining their eyes.
- Another strategy is to split information across multiple slides. You don't have to fit all information about one topic on the same slide.
- I also recommend using animations to display information when you're talking about. Otherwise, the audience will try to read your entire slide and stop paying attention to you. Then they will get lost and stop paying attention.
- Of course, remember to use colors that contrast well so that they audience can read the information easily.
- If you have images or charts, try to use only 1 or 2 per slide. If you use too many charts, they can be hard to understand because the data, description, or key will be very small.

Formatting and Design Tips

- **Slides $\neq$ Presentation**
 - Slides guide your presentation
- **Keep it simple**
 - Concise bullet points
 - Minimal text*
 - Images (1-2 graphics per slide)
 - Simple backgrounds





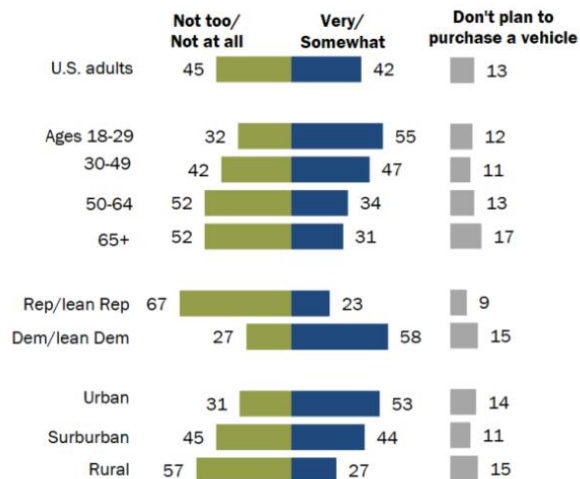
Formatting and Design Tips

- Control visibility with simple "animations."
 - Be consistent
 - **Font**
 - Easy to read
 - Size 18+
 - Contrasting colors
 - **Don't be afraid to go big!**
 - Legible charts, including legends
 - Bigger font size
 - Split information across slides.
-

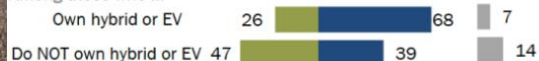
FORMATTING AND DESIGN TIPS

Younger adults more likely than older adults to consider buying an electric vehicle

% of U.S. adults who say they are ___ likely to seriously consider purchasing an electric vehicle the next time they purchase a vehicle



Among those who ...



Note: Respondents who did not give an answer are not shown.

Source: Survey conducted May 2-8, 2022.

Americans Divided Over Direction of Biden's Climate Change Policies

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Table 1: Demographic Characteristics of Participants (N = 24)

Characteristic	N	%	Median
Gender			
Female	15	62.5	
Male	9	37.5	
Race/Ethnicity			
Non-Hispanic White	23	95.8	
Hispanic-White	1	4.2	
Age			61.0
Education ¹			
GED/High School Diploma	9	37.5	
2-Year Degree	1	4.2	
4-Year Degree	8	33.3	
Master's Degree	6	25.0	
Employment			
Business	4	16.7	
Construction	1	4.2	
Education	3	12.5	
Healthcare	3	12.5	
Homemaker	2	8.3	
Retired	10	41.7	
Unemployed	1	4.2	
Religion			
Christian	17	70.8	
Spiritual	1	4.2	
Jewish	1	4.2	
Non-Religious	5	20.8	
Geographical Location			
Midwest	11	45.8	
South	3	12.5	
West	10	41.7	
Voluntarily Childless Children			
1	21	87.5	
2	2	8.3	
3	1	4.2	
Grandchildren Present			
Yes	11	45.8	
No	13	54.2	

¹ Highest degree completed.

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Construction	1	4.2	
Education	3	12.5	
Healthcare	3	12.5	
Homemaker	2	8.3	
Retired	10	41.7	
Unemployed	1	4.2	

Organizing Your Presentation





Introduction

- **Introduce yourself**

- Name, mentor, your summer research program, title of project
- Sponsoring/applicable departments, grants, class, etc.

- **Introduction/Background of research**

- Establish the academic context: significance of your research to your field and/or the larger world
 - Topic
 - Previous literature
 - Research question/goal
 - Why is this important?
-



Body

- **Key Content**

- Theoretical Framework
- Thesis/Hypotheses
- Methods
- Results

- **Determine the best way to organize *your* presentation**

- Think of the presentation as telling the story of your research:
 - What **key concepts** do you need to convey?
 - What is the most important thing for people to know?
 - Transition between ideas in a way that shows your logic.
-



Conclusion

- **Conclusion**
 - Summarize your thesis and key points
 - Reiterate the significance
 - Potential applications
 - Consequences
 - Implications
 - Identify future direction
 - Next steps, future directions
 - **Acknowledgements**
 - Mentors/PI
 - Program
 - Funding
 - Etc.
 - **References**
 - **Thank the audience**
-



Presenting





PRESENTING

- Don't just read the slides
 - Explain each slide – especially graphs, tables, data, etc.
 - ~1 minute per slide
 - Slow down
 - Be confident in sharing the work you have done....
 - Dress appropriately
 - Use a clicker
 - Present to audience
-

A Few Final Tips



What If?

The project is not finished, the results are incomplete, the experiment failed, etc.

"If we knew what it was we were doing, it would not be called research, would it?" - Albert Einstein

- Present what you have, using preliminary results.
 - If your results are not satisfactory or complete, explain why.
 - Discuss potential avenues for future work.
 - Focus on context, purpose, goals.
 - You won't be the only one not finished.
-



What If?

You don't know how to answer a question

- Honesty is the best policy!
 - “Thank you for that question... I will pursue the answer in future research.”
 - It's OK to use this space to think out loud.
 - Open the floor to input from colleagues.
 - If you already knew all the answers, why would you be doing research?
 - Remember: the audience wants you to succeed!
-

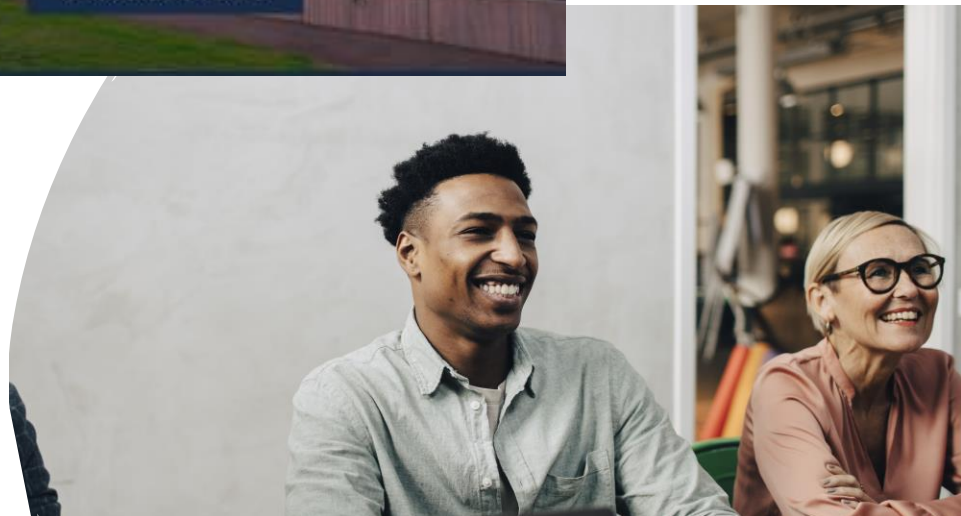
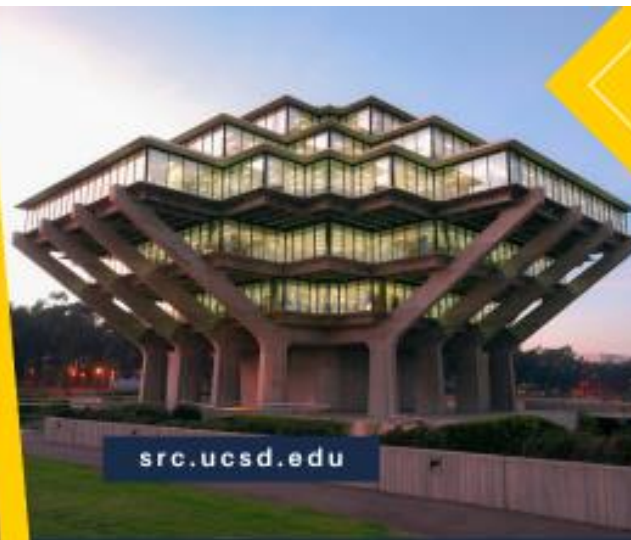


Helpful Hints and Reminders

- Proofread your presentation
 - **Practice out loud** and in front of mentor/colleagues
 - Record yourself presenting
 - Time yourself!
 - The audience is rooting for you!
-

2026 Summer Research Conference at UC San Diego

August 12 & 13





SRC Details (check [SRC.UCSD.EDU](https://src.ucsd.edu) for more information)

- August 12th and 13th in the Price Center and Student Services Center
 - Over 320 student presenters from 47 colleges and universities
 - 5 presentation sessions on Wednesday, 2 on Thursday; each presenter will present at one of these sessions
 - 12 concurrent panels during each session
-

Summer Research Conference Details

Wednesday, August 12

8:00 - 8:30 am Check-in & Breakfast

8:30 - 9:00 am Welcome remarks

9:15 - 10:15 am Morning session I

10:30 - 11:30 am Morning session II

11:30 am - 12:30 pm Lunch

12:45 - 1:45 pm Afternoon session I

2:00 - 3:00 pm Afternoon session II

3:15 - 4:15 pm Afternoon session III

Thursday, August 14

8:00 - 8:30 am Check-in & Breakfast

8:30 - 9:00 am Welcome remarks

9:15 - 10:15 am Morning session I

10:30 - 11:30 am Morning session II

11:45 - 12:00 pm Closing

Price Center West Ballroom A & B – location of

- *Check-in & Breakfast,*
- *Welcome remarks,*
- *Lunch, and*
- *Closing on Thursday*



SRC Presentations and Panels

- Panels are organized around topics and themes.
 - 3 – 4 presentations within each panel
 - 12 minutes for individual presenters + 3 min Q&A
 - 16 minutes for pairs + 4 min Q&A
 - Arrive 15 minutes early to your session -> upload presentation to computer
 - Multiple ways (at least 3) to access your presentation
 - Enter and exit panels *between* presentations.
 - Stay in your session for the entirety of your panel.
-

Wednesday Morning I: 9:15 - 10:15 AM				
Panel #	Panel Name	Location	Moderator	Student Presenters
1	DNA Methylation & Chromatin Regulation	SSC - Conference Room 300	Doug Bartlett	Emma Sun Hideaki Yamamoto Sophie Chin
2	Innate Immunity & Inflammatory Disease	PC - Bear Room	Tatum Simonson	Ayaan Khan Adam Lee Anahi Cuin Neelan Patel
3	Cognition and Social Interaction	PC - Dance Studio	Gail Heyman	Layla Jones Lillian Laatz Monica Valenzuela Garabuning Pongpun
4	Examining Power and Political Discourse	PC - East Ballroom	Philip Roeder	Ginny Duncan Jessica Engen Lauren Wesley Seunghee Ko



SRC Certificates

- Digital
 - All students will be sent a link to receive their digital certificates
 - Printed
 - If you wish to have a printed copy of your certificate, complete the form: <https://tinyurl.com/src2026certificate>
 - Pickup at Closing Remarks on Thursday @ 11:45 AM
-

SRC Guests

- Guests
 - May come to watch your presentation
 - Recommended: pre-register guests online for faster check-in
 - All guests check in at reception area (Price Center West Ballrooms)
 - No cost for guest registration.
 - [Conference Visitor parking](#) -- Gilman Structure, South Parking Structure, and possibly (new) Triton Parking Structure.
 - \$8/day in B or S parking in zone number **47800** (ParkMobile app) or pre-purchased [online](#) ([via OffStreet](#)).
-



SRC website

src.ucsd.edu

- Program will be posted soon.
 - Check for additional updates.
 - Questions? Email ugresearch@ucsd.edu
-

Thank you!

Questions: contact
ugresearch@ucsd.edu

