CS 5970: Empirical Methods

Oral Project Proposal Grading Criteria

September 15, 2008

Presentation: 50 points

Slides: 20 points

(20) Slides are uncluttered and useful in guiding the presentation. They do not need to be highly graphical but they should not be ugly.

(15) Slides have one minor problem. For example, the slides have too much text or the coloring is difficult to read.

(10) Slides have one major problem. For example, the slides do not track the presentation, they are not used in any way, they are all math (and no text), or illegible (difficult to achieve with powerpoint but possible!).

(5) Slides have several major problems or are non-existent.

Oral delivery: 20 points

(20) The presentation was clear and audible to the entire room. Presentation was understandable and the presenter had no distracting nervous habits (such as pacing).

(15) Presentation had one minor delivery issue. For example, the presenter spent the entire time talking to the floor or the wall (and never facing the class) or nervously twiddling with the marker.

(10) Presentation had one major delivery issue. For example, the presenter talked so fast that hardly anyone could understand the talk or used inappropriate words.

(5) Presentation had several major delivery issues or was completely unintelligible.

Timing: 10 points

(10) The presentation was appropriately timed to fit in the assigned slot (for the proposal, your talk should be on the order of 10-15 minutes, not including questions). The presenter answered questions but also knew how to not be distracted and was able to push the distractions to later.

(8) Timing had one minor issue. For example, the presentation went over by < 1 minute (I will cut you off anyway as we have tight timing).

(5) Timing had one major issue. For example, when I cut you off at your time limit, you are still on the introduction and have not presented your experiment.

(2) Timing had several major issues. For example, a question completely distracts you and you are unable to get back on track or to skip the right material to get back on track.

Content: 50 points

Organization: 25 points

(25) Organization of the talk was clear. Each slide followed logically from the previous slide and a summary ended the talk.

(20) There was one minor organizational issue. For example, the order of some slides was a bit jarring or the overall picture was not clear from the beginning.

(15) There was one major organizational issue. For example, the order of the talk did not make a lot of sense or a clear roadmap and summary was not given.

(10) The presentation had several major organizational issues.

(5) The organization was unacceptable. For example, the order of the slides was completely random or there was no discernible organization.

Required components: 25 points

Research domain: 9 points

(9) Research domain and question were explained in enough detail to be understood.

(4) Problem domain or research question was somewhat unclear.

Experimental questions: 8 points

(8) The experimental questions clearly follow from the research question. The experimental questions are testable.

(4) Some of these details are missing.

Experiments: 8 points

(8) The specific set of exploratory experiments and the expected outcomes are described clearly.

(4) The experiment design is missing one of these components.