

### **Presentation Assignment**

Each student in this class will choose an article from the syllabus to present to the class. Some articles will be divided among two or three students. I will provide each presenter with a list of reading-guide questions to cover for his/her presentation. The presentation need not take the form of a list of answers to the given questions. In fact, that method should only be used as a last resort.

The central goal of your presentation is clarity. Determine the central claim of the article, or portion of the article, you are presenting. Introduce and motivate the problem at hand. Describe the solution presented in your article. Compare this solution with other ones. You need not defend an original claim, though you may present critical material.

Visual aids can enhance your clarity. You may use presentation software, like PowerPoint. You may prepare a handout containing an outline of your talk. You may write a short paper on which you base your talk, and hand out that short paper. You may combine these aids. I have been to talks in which philosophers use PowerPoint, and distribute handouts of both the PowerPoint slides and the paper on which the talk is based. If you choose to hand out a paper, you might want to distribute the paper in advance; I can facilitate the distribution of materials before class, if desired.

The best presentations are those in which the presenter can talk comfortably about his/her topic without reading. Generally, I find that reading a paper to an audience is likely to be less successful. But, it may be the most comfortable approach for some people, and is acceptable.

#### **Resources:**

I encourage you to meet with me before your presentation, to discuss content. I also encourage you to visit the oral communications lab, located in KJ 152. They can help you determine the content of your presentation. They can help you to figure out how best to present your material. When you have prepared a draft of your presentation, they can record you while you practice giving the presentation. Then, you can watch it with a tutor, to get hints about how to improve, or just watch it yourself.

You can sign up for an appointment with a tutor on the door of the lab, or you can email them at: [oralcomm@hamilton.edu](mailto:oralcomm@hamilton.edu).

I am not requiring that you visit the oral communications center, but I strongly encourage you to do so. They have a wealth of resources readily available, and are eager to help. Even if you choose not to make an appointment with a tutor, you should check out the valuable resources, available at their website:

<http://www.hamilton.edu/academics/department.html?dept=Oral%20Communication>

Presentation List

November 1:

Skinner: \_\_\_\_\_

Smart: \_\_\_\_\_

November 6:

Fodor 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Fodor 2: \_\_\_\_\_

November 8:

Turing/Searle 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Searle 2: \_\_\_\_\_

November 13:

Mill 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Mill 2: \_\_\_\_\_

November 15:

Mill 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Nozick: \_\_\_\_\_

November 20:

Kant 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Kant 2: \_\_\_\_\_

November 27:

Kant 3: \_\_\_\_\_

O'Neill: \_\_\_\_\_

November 29:

Ross: \_\_\_\_\_

December 4:

Mackie: \_\_\_\_\_

Dworkin: \_\_\_\_\_

December 6:

Bambrough: \_\_\_\_\_