

Major Essay First Draft Presentation Instructions and Rubric

In the designated live seminar meeting, you will present your essay's first draft (perhaps in summary form). You will hear a classmate's response to your essay, and you will discuss with the rest of us whatever questions arise about your project.

The draft you present should be "essentially final." Drafts that are outside of [the required length for the assignment](#) will have their presentation grade reduced proportionately.

Presentations will be graded according to the following rubric:

- (50%) Delivery: Was the essay's presentation competently done? Was the delivery smooth with no or minimal missteps? Was the presentation done at a pace that was comfortable for the listeners? If the full essay could not be read due to time constraints, did the summary focus on the most important parts of the essay's argument?
- (50%) Discussion: Was the presenter able competently to engage the audience in discussing the essay? Did the presenter answer the questions posed or attempt to sidestep any of them? If challenges to or criticisms of the essay were made, did the presenter receive them graciously and respond with additional clarification, qualification, or evidence?
- Lateness: -0–100% according to [this policy](#)
- Length: -0–100% according to [this policy](#) and the length of the draft in comparison to the final length specified in the essay's instructions

If you are unable to complete an essentially final draft in time for your essay's presentation, you should concentrate on drafting the prose of your main argument. This way, you can adequately and respectably fill the time allocated for your presentation as you would have to do if you found yourself in the same situation ahead of an academic conference. You can then concentrate on nuancing your argument, filling out the bibliography, and implementing other refinements as appropriate ahead of the due date for your essay's final draft.