<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Elements of a strong presentation</th>
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| **Knowledge and explanation of subject matter:** | • relates proposal to topics covered in 20.109 when appropriate  
  • sufficiently explains concepts/methods/etc. not covered in 20.109                                                                 |
| Idea                                 | • the what, why, and how *(are you going to do it)* of the idea are each clear and compelling  
  • the project scope is reasonable  
  • exhibits novelty/creativity                                                                                       |
| Overview                             | • clear and concise description of the central question to be investigated, *and* its significance                                                                                           |
| Background                           | • sufficient for intelligent non-experts to understand the proposal  
  • describes/credits relevant prior art                                                                                   |
| Problem and Goals                    | • well-defined hypothesis and goals                                                                                                                                                             |
| Details/Methods                      | • staged roadmap for investigation  
  • the experiments address the central question and include good controls  
  • methods needed to understand the predicted outcomes are explained, without unnecessary detail                             |
| Outcomes                             | • show sample data if experiment works (summarize in tabular form, make mock graphs, show published images from similar work, etc.)  
  • describe alternate assays, questions, and/or information still gained if experiment does not work                      |
| Resources                            | • consider specialized resources needed (e.g., plasmids, cell lines, access to large/costly equipment)  
  • detail is good, but not needed for every resource, nor is detailed budget info. required                            |
| Impact and Summary                   | • reiterate question, detail its importance to science and society                                                                                                                                  |
| Q&A                                  | • answers that convey understanding  
  • admit when you lack knowledge, tell how you would approach the question based on what you know                                                                                  |
| Overall organization of talk         | • content introduced in logical, easy-to-follow sequence  
  • main points emphasized, repeated  
  • transition statements between ideas                                                                                   |
| Overall effectiveness of slide text/visuals | • slide titles convey key message  
  • good balance of text and figures  
  • text/figures large enough to be seen  
  • considered use of color  
  • not too many or too few slides                                                                                      |
| **Overall effectiveness of delivery** | • all elements of a good individual presentation (effective use of voice, body, and language), plus:  
| | • collaborative effort: partners speak for equal times, don’t interrupt each other, take turns being “on stage”  
| | • overall appears rehearsed, with smooth transitions between speakers, talk is cohesive  
| | • review/preview structure of talk  
| | • 12’ length (+/- 0.5 min) |
| **Talking points** | • main points to be made during talk (can be incomplete sentences)  
| | • well thought-out transitions  
| | • best work will include supporting detail, in case needed for Q&A |