

Week 1: Self-Introduction PowerPoint

Due: 5pm Saturday, March 28 (5 points)

Submission Method: D2L Discussion Board

Activities:

Most online courses start with an activity in the first week of class to help students get to know each other. While the format of these introductions can vary, a common way of doing this is by simply having students create a basic PowerPoint. Of course there are other options such as recording a short video on YouTube, using other presentation software like Keynote, Prezi, or Google Docs, and even just a paragraph of text on the discussion board. While these other options are certainly nice, you may often find that technical barriers prevent students from using them effectively. You want to make sure to start things off on the right foot, and if your students are having trouble with a webcam or can't understand Prezi during the first week of class, it can easily set the wrong tone for the rest of the semester.

Assigning a brief PowerPoint activity is a good way to have students introduce themselves without getting too technical. Since all students at OSU have access to PowerPoint through the Software Distribution Center (see link on D2L), it's easy for them to download and use it. Also, your projects need to be scalable: for a class of 10 students, a two-minute video introduction would be fine but for a class of 100 students, it would take a significant amount of time to simply watch the videos, let alone assign grades to all of them.

For this class we will create a PowerPoint file to help us get to know one another. As Shakespeare said, brevity is the soul of wit, and thus placing restrictions on this assignment is a way to keep students focused. I have seen these types of self-introductions get long and overly complicated, which means not only does the information get cluttered but students (and professors) generally don't actually pay attention to the whole thing.

Your PowerPoint must meet the following requirements

- **Your full name** somewhere on the first slide
- **Six** pictures that represent who you are (e.g. personal life, family, career, hobbies, background, etc.), each with a brief caption or other accompanying informational text.
- **A short statement** explaining why you are enrolled in the POI class
- Must be exactly **three slides** (two for pictures, one for the POI enrollment statement)

Save and submit your Self-Introduction in the Discussion Board that has been set up for this specific purpose. Use the naming convention "POI-Lastname-Introduction.pptx" when saving your file.

Please read through the introductions posted by your classmates, and use this as a chance to interact on the discussion board. Reply to some of the posts with your thoughts and feedback on your classmates' presentations. These posts are not graded, but you are encouraged to use this as a way to break the ice and meet each other virtually. And since we're all going to meet each other on Thursday anyway, getting these PowerPoints and discussions done should make for some good conversation starters.

Grading criteria are as follows:

	Proficient (5 points)	Basic (3 points)	Needs Improvement (2 points)	No Credit (0 points)
Self-Introduction	Contains exactly three slides and six images, all with captions or other informational text. First two slides contain the author's name and pictures, and the third slide contains a statement about why the author is enrolled in POI. Shows signs of effort and creativity overall.	Contains fewer, or more, than three slides and six images. Images have some text, but might be confusing or unhelpful. Pictures and POI enrollment statement are disorganized and not where they should be. POI enrollment statement is present, but brief. Shows some sign of effort and creativity overall.	Contains a vastly inappropriate number of slides and images. Captions or text is missing from many of the images. Organization is sloppy, and POI enrollment statement is short, confusing, or poorly worded. Shows little sign of effort and creativity overall.	Student fails to turn in the assignment.