

Final project information

This course has a final project in place of a traditional final exam. Project-related assignments are in two phases, with preparation assignments beginning in week 10 of the course. Each assignment in this category will be given a letter grade, A+ to F.

Overview and due dates

• Final project development assignments (25% of course grade in total)		
Topic proposal	5% of course grade	Th Apr 4, 11:55pm
Article summary 1	10% of course grade	Tu Apr 16, 11:55pm
Article summary 2	10% of course grade	Th Apr 25, 11:55pm
• Final project presentation 15% of course grade M May 6, 4-7pm		

Structure of the project components

Topic proposal

- Identify **two research articles** that address the same **reading-related topic** in two **different** ways. For example, they may support opposing positions in a debate, or investigate two distinct aspects of the same larger question.
 - Make sure your topic addresses some aspect of *reading* or *reading education*.
 - Be sure to choose *actual research articles* like those we have read in class. They should be published in a **peer-reviewed journal** (in print and/or online) and should include **methodology** (experiment design) and **results** sections.
 - *Warning:* If you choose two articles whose authors are already directly arguing against one another, it may be hard for you to combine the two into a project that says something different from what the two articles are already saying.
- State the **main claims or points** made by each article, in 1 to 3 sentences each.
- Describe the planned **structure of your final presentation**. This may be presented in either paragraph or outline form. Include the following information:
 - What is the **main topic** or **research question** your presentation will address?
 - How will **information** from each article be **used** in your presentation (will they be used to represent two sides of a debate, or will they be used as two kinds of evidence to argue for a broader conclusion, or...)?
 - How will your presentation **differ** from the contents of each article on its own?
- Include full **citation information** for your chosen articles, in [this citation format](#).

Workshop time is scheduled in class on **Tu Apr 2**, but you can start thinking about topics and looking at articles in advance.

Article summaries 1 and 2

For each of your two articles, you will submit an **article summary** that outlines the research questions, methodology/experiment design, results, and analysis/interpretation of the experiment reported in that article. Note that the article summaries focus closely on the research question(s) and results, *even if the way you will use information from the articles for your final presentation is different*.

Detailed information and grading criteria for the article summaries will be provided separately.

Final presentation

The final presentation consists of the following. **Attendance at the presentations during our final exam time (M May 6, 4-7pm) is mandatory.** Exceptions can only be made through the office of your dean.

- **Presentation slides:** Create slides synthesizing the two research papers. For example, if they take opposing positions, you might explain each position, and determine which is better supported and why (or why we can't decide). If they investigate two aspects of the same larger question, you might explain each contribution and discuss what we learn from putting the two together.
- **Lightning talk:** During the final-exam period, you will give a lightning-talk version of your presentation (approximately 5–6 minutes long).

Detailed information and grading criteria for the presentation slides and the presentation will be provided separately.