

# How to give a PhD/MsC/BsC Talk

The structure for all three is the same. The more experience, the more depth is expected.

# A few words in the beginning

- This slide is not part of the template structure, but introduces important concepts
- The structure for all three (BSc, MSc, PhD) is the same. The more advanced you are in your studies, the more depth is expected.
- Expect questions while you talk. Especially if something is not clear.
- Take these questions as a positive critique to improve your talk
- A good talk
  - Follows a good, easy understandable structure
  - has a clear, precise and concise presentation and a clear language,
  - Favors clarity over completeness
  - Avoids complexity, but without losing deepness or content
  - Works with a lot of examples
  - takes into account the knowledge of the audience.
- We do not expect that you are passionate about your thesis and that it is the only thing for you in life, but we expect that you do it on a professional level.
- Reference work of others on the slide you talk about that work. No proper references → Bad Grade
- We do not tolerate plagiarism

# My thesis in a nutshell

Describe on one slide

- the motivation of your thesis (why is this problem worth of attention?)
- the main challenges you have handled (or you expect which occure)
- the main result

Why? In one slide you can not go into details, but the audience will know the context.

You should use an example, so that your audience has a picture in mind what you are talking about.

# Agenda/Structure

Show the structure of your talk. Most often this will be

- Motivation for my thesis
- Related work
- Challenges/Research Questions/Technical Questions
- Methodology to solve the challenges/answer the questions
- Experiments/Implementation Details
- Discussion
- Conclusion/Future Work

Don't spend too long explaining the outline

# Motivation

- Why is your work important?
- Why should I bother listening to you for 30 minutes of my valuable time?
- No motivation, no questions?

# Related Work

- What did others do in the field? But only talk about **related** work, not about all work that has been done in the field.
- Summarise the work of others, do not repeat it
- What challenges have been already solved, which are still open?

# Challenges/Research Questions

- What detailed questions/challenges did you plan to solve?
- What was the exact challenge/research question you solved?
- Maximum 2-3 slides
- Maximum 3-4 questions

# Methodology

- How did you answer your questions
  - Started implementing immediately
  - Did a data model, then implemented it
  - Did experiment 1 to answer question 1, than followed by experiment 2 etc.
  - Be precise, be concise!
- If it is a starting talk, introduce how you plan to answer your questions



# Implementation/Experiments

- Describe how you implemented the methodology or how you plan to do it
  - Software model, data model, implementation
- Show experimental results or outline what you expect out of your experiments or how you proof your claims?
  - simulations
  - data analysis
  - Examples
  - demos

# Discussion

Discussion is a critical, objective reflection of what you achieved.

- Could you solve the challenge/answer the question? If yes, why. If no, why.
- What worked well? Where did you have problems.
- Be careful what you claim, most work does not solve a problem entirely, statements like „with my work I was able to overcome the Semantic Gap“ will make knowledgeable audience very suspicious.

# Conclusion/Future Work

- Summarize what you did for those that felt asleep although you did a great talk
- Point to open issues
  - No open issues, points towards a trivial work.

**THE END – NOW ENJOY THE  
QUESTIONS**

# YOUR CONFERENCE PRESENTATION

## HOW YOU PLANNED IT:



## HOW IT GOES:

