PRESENTATION 1: Research Report

Purpose: This assignment corresponds to Ober's (2004) first general purpose of professional presentations, i.e., "reporting." For this presentation, you will present a short informative speech discussing current research on a topic of your choice. In addition to providing you with an opportunity to organize a presentation using the principles we discuss in class, it will also give you a chance to take specialized information and adapt it to a general adult audience in a way that makes it interesting and understandable.

Audience: The SPCH 230 class

Time Length: 5-7 minutes, not including a mandatory question & answer session after your presentation.

Requirements:

1) Your research report proposal, which includes your topic, the corresponding theme, and one complete source of information/article, is due for approval no later than 1 week before you are scheduled to present. Please note that failure to meet this deadline will automatically result in a grade penalty being applied to your presentation.

2) Your topic must reflect at least one of the following general themes:
   - Doing business in the 21st century
   - Workplace issues in the 21st century
   - Science and technology: Affecting our lives and/or our world
   - Legal challenges of the 21st century
   - Innovations in education
   - New frontiers in medicine and health

3) Since the focus of this assignment is on reporting very current, unbiased, and accurate information, your sources of information will be important. Requirements include:
   a) You must use a minimum of three articles to prepare your report. In addition, at least one of these articles must come from one of the online databases available through Thomas Cooper Library.
   b) All sources used must be current articles that have been published within the past year (i.e., Feb 2018 - Feb 2019).
   c) As noted above, at least one of your articles must be submitted for approval as part of your presentation proposal.
   d) Your sources must be clearly cited in your presentation (include at minimum the date and original source of publication for all articles used)
   e) All articles used must come from one of the following:
      - A major newsmagazine (Newsweek, Time, etc.)
      - A major business, science, education, or technology-focused magazine or web site (Business Week, Scientific American, National Geographic, Psychology Today, Advertising Age, etc.)
      - A website of a major news organization (CNN, NBC news, CBS news, etc.)
      - A professional, peer-reviewed journal reflecting the areas of medicine, the sciences, law, education or business (The Journal of Business, The New England Journal of Medicine, etc.)
   f) No opinion pieces (editorials, commentary columns, blog posts, etc.) may be used
   g) The first two pages from each article used must be submitted with your paperwork on the day of your presentation.

8) A typed full-sentence outline of your presentation is due before you leave class on the day you speak - use the slides on outlining, including the “template,” on the course web site, as a guide. Please note that submitting a complete, correct outline is an important part of the presentation assignment.

9) Use of visual aids is optional. If you choose to use a visual aid it is your responsibility to consult the website materials regarding designing and using visual aids correctly. If you have questions concerning effectively incorporating a visual aid into your presentation you should see me before giving your presentation.

10) Please do not read your presentation from your notes or memorize it verbatim from a “script” (speaking notes may be collected at the instructor's discretion). Be sure to practice the presentation, including using any visual aids effectively, to allow for a conversational, as well as confident and polished, style of speaking.

11) Remember to hand in 2 copies of the appropriate grading sheet, as well as a copy of your bibliography, before you give your presentation.

12) There will be a question and answer portion at the end of your speech. Please note that asking questions during the Q&A sessions is a significant part of your participation grade.

13) You will be required to evaluate other speakers by providing written feedback on their presentations. Because the peer evaluations count for 10% of your final grade, the quality of these evaluations (i.e., completeness, depth of comments, specificity of feedback, etc.) will be graded by assigning letter grades: A for excellent/superior quality, B for good, C for average, D for poor, and F for incomplete. Also, all evaluations must be completed using the appropriate forms available on the course website.