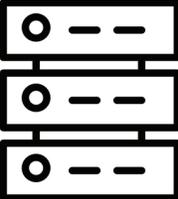


# 2025 SJSU Grad Slam: Judging Criteria

Below is an explanation of each judging criterion. A brief summary is included on your judging form.

Judging Criteria	Explanation
<p data-bbox="131 415 479 451"><b>Content Accessibility</b></p> 	<p data-bbox="532 388 1518 514">Does the presenter translate their outcomes and significance in an understandable and interesting way to a non-specialized audience? Do you want to learn more? Does their slide enhance the presentation's message?</p> <p data-bbox="532 567 1534 829">We want the presenter to make their research accessible and memorable to people outside of their discipline. The audience should be able to follow along with the presentation and want to learn more. The speaker should avoid field jargon and define specialist terms when used, give accessible and relatable examples supporting their work, and use a slide that enhances the presentation's message.</p>
<p data-bbox="154 886 462 961"><b>Depth and Mastery of Topic</b></p> 	<p data-bbox="532 886 1502 961">Does the presenter demonstrate depth of mastery of their topic with a clear and logical structure?</p> <p data-bbox="532 1018 1526 1234">An effective presentation should follow a logical sequence and introduce the aspects of the project, such as background, significance, methods, results, etc., demonstrating their depth of knowledge and mastery of their topic. They should spend an adequate amount of time on each element, without the presentation feeling rushed.</p>
<p data-bbox="240 1306 373 1339"><b>Delivery</b></p> 	<p data-bbox="532 1291 1550 1459">Does the speaker demonstrate strong public speaking skills—eye contact, stage confidence, comfortable pacing, body language, use of gestures, and vocal techniques (<i>power, pause, pitch, etc.</i>)—to engage the audience's interest and attention throughout the presentation?</p> <p data-bbox="532 1543 1542 1885">We want the speaker to demonstrate their expertise through the confident and comfortable use of the stage to share their intellectual findings. Their gestures and body language should enhance rather than distract. The speaker's presentation style should be confident and enthusiastic. The speaker should not rely on notes to deliver the talk. The speaker should use intentional physical techniques (<i>e.g, gestures, eye contact, stage use, etc.</i>) and verbal delivery techniques (<i>power, pause, pace, etc.</i>) that increase the audience's interest and information retention.</p>

### Intellectual Significance



Does the presenter clearly explain how/why their project advances (*or matters to*) their discipline AND/OR benefits (*or matters to*) other interested groups without trivializing or generalizing their project?

Grad Slam is a communication competition to a non-specialist audience, and is not a research competition. You are judging how well the presenter articulates their project's significance to a non-specialized audience. They should neither trivialize nor generalize their research. You are not judging which presenter's impact is better or more noteworthy.

The criteria will be judged on a 6-point scale, as follows 1 = Needs Improvement, 2 = Fair with Minor Flaws, 3 = Adequate, 4 = Good, 5 = Very Good, 6 = Outstanding. A 6-point scale was chosen over a 5-point scale to create a larger and more nuanced score spread.

*\*Language for criteria adapted from UC Santa Barbara and UC Riverside Grad Slam judging material.*