

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROJECTS AND PRESENTATIONS

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

- Everyone is expected to come to every presentation. They will take place during Tuesday and Wednesday, May 5 and 6, from 2-5pm, at the usual place where the class meets. [Note these dates are NOT May 4 and 5 as originally announced.] The detailed schedule will be announced in class and posted on the class web page.
- A deadline is a deadline is a deadline. No late presentations!

B. IN-CLASS PRESENTATIONS

- There will 6-7 presentations each day, each presentation taking 20 minutes.
- Timing is important, so you probably want to rehearse your presentation a few days in advance.
- Presentations should use overhead transparencies. You don't need to make your transparencies on the computer but you're welcome to do so if you'd like. Lots of colors or pictures help the presentation be more lively.
- *Clarity* is extremely important. You'll be wasting your time and everyone else's if we can't tell what you're talking about. As you probably know from personal experience, this happens all the time in seminars. Don't do it! Try to direct your presentation toward the person in the audience that knows the least about the subject.
- Your presentation should aim for *two goals*:
 - (1) Demonstrate that you've read and understood a good part of the basic literature in a subject of recent or current interest. Convince us that you understand the "big picture," the motivation for the work, the main results, and their main implications.
 - (2) Teach us something.

C. PROJECT REPORTS

- Project reports are due in class, on the last day of the presentations. They should be typed, between 8 and 10 pages in length.
- Your main goal in writing the project report is similar to that of making a presentation: You should convince me that you've read and understood a good part of the basic literature in a subject of recent interest. You should convince me that you understand the "big picture," the motivation for the work, the main results, and their main implications.