

# Grad SLAM FAQs

**Q Do I have to have my talk finalized to attend a workshop or coaching session?**

**A** No, feel free to attend any preparation sessions you wish without a completed talk. We are here to help you work through your presentation and provide you with assistance.

**Q Does my talk have to be exactly 3 minutes? Will I be penalized for being under/over?**

**A** For the *first* round, we are more lenient but try to stay within 15 seconds under/over 3 minutes. For the *final* round, we may deduct points for being more than 5 seconds under/over 3 minutes.

**Q When do you start timing us?**

**A** The time starts when you engage your audience. This could be when you begin speaking, a gesture or the playing of an audio clip. Contact Grad SLAM *staff* if you have specific questions.

**Q What audience should I be gearing my talk towards?**

**A** You should be gearing your talk towards a general audience. Help us understand what you study and why it matters on a broader scale than the microscopic nuances.

**Q What if I am worried or nervous about speaking in front of people?**

**A** Come to a *workshop*! This event is designed to serve YOU as the researcher. We have designed many workshops to help you write, deliver, and practice your talk.

**Q Should I add citations to my slide?**

**A** It's your decision, but citations are not required. Please keep in mind you only have 3 minutes. Slides with a lot of technical information will be difficult to read within the time frame.

**Q Do I include my name when I start my talk?**

**A** Your slides should include a title slide, so stating your name is not necessary. However, you may do so if it feels natural to you.