

Student-Led Lecture Guidelines

1. Purpose

The student-led lectures extend the instructor-led portion of the course into emerging application domains. The goal is not to review papers one by one, but to synthesize what the research community has learned about modern generative paradigms in a target domain.

2. Timeline

- Submit your top three topic preferences to the instructor and TA by the end of the third week of February.
- The instructor and TA will announce the final topic assignments by the end of February.
- Submit your lecture slides and Checkpoint Package at least two days before your scheduled lecture. The Checkpoint Package should contain the checkpoint questions and supporting materials required by the TA to upload the assignment to Gradescope.

3. Deliverables

- One 80-minute lecture.
- Approximately 20–30 content slides (excluding title, references, and backup slides).
- A Checkpoint section during the last 10–15 minutes containing 1–3 conceptual checkpoint questions.
- A revised slide deck after feedback, if requested.

4. Preparing an Effective Lecture

- Assume the core paradigms have already been taught; focus on the application domain.
- Organize the lecture around scientific challenges rather than individual papers.
- Synthesize the literature instead of presenting paper-by-paper summaries.
- Treat AI as an assistant, not an authority. Verify important scientific claims.
- Support major claims with evidence.
- Clearly distinguish established results from your own interpretations and hypotheses.

5. Lessons Learned from Previous Lectures

This section is intentionally maintained as a living document. New recommendations may be added in future offerings of the course based on experience from previous student-led lectures.