A series for graduate students to practice informal, impromptu oral research communication

Spring 2019
Every other Wednesday
Starting 2/27/19
Speak Easy is for graduate students at all stages of degree timeline

**Pre-proposal**
Practice discussing methods/early results

**Pre-qualifying**
Practice discussing research area/topic

**Pre-defense**
Practice discussing all results and impact

Who is Speak Easy for?  |  Goals of Speak Easy  |  How it works  |  Let’s discuss  |  Conclusion
---|---|---|---|---
recurring activity for graduate students to practice informal research communication

1. Practice communicating to technical audiences, without the crutch of slides

2. Improve active listening and question generation

3. Give and receive constructive feedback from peers

4. Learn what peers are working on
Format for Speak Easy©

- In a 1-hr session, the activity is done twice
- Students sign up to be speakers over semester

Semester break down:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week(s)</th>
<th>Question Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-4</td>
<td>Introductory context</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-8</td>
<td>Methods design and analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-11</td>
<td>Results and discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-14</td>
<td>Implications and utilization</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sign-up form (Google Docs):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Absent/late etc.</th>
<th>Week (dates are Tues.)</th>
<th>Question category</th>
<th>Questions</th>
<th>Speaker 1</th>
<th>Speaker 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ahmed (A)</td>
<td>Jan 22</td>
<td>Intro to Speak Easy</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jan 28</td>
<td>Introductory context</td>
<td>[1] [2] [3]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 5</td>
<td>Introductory context</td>
<td>[1] [2] [3]</td>
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<td>Feb 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 19</td>
<td>Methods design and analysis</td>
<td>[1] [2] [3]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 26</td>
<td>Methods design and analysis</td>
<td>[1] [2] [3]</td>
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<td>Mar 5</td>
<td>Methods design and analysis</td>
<td>[1] [2] [3]</td>
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</table>

Who is Speak Easy for?  Goals of Speak Easy  How it works  Let’s discuss  Conclusion
Before the Meeting

Sign-up in Google Doc

Speaker 1

Speaker 2

Question examples—Introductory context:

1. How did your research question emerge?
2. What are the theoretical underpinnings of your work?
3. Explain your research in 2 minutes
Round 1

Speaker 1

Speaker 2

Audience

How did your research question emerge?

A question is asked
My research questions actually came to me in a dream!.....
Round 1

Online Self Evaluation Form

Speaker 1

Online Feedback Form

Audience

Online Written Feedback: 5 min
Round 1

Well... it was more of a nightmare...

What kind of dream?

Speaker 1

Speaker 2

Audience

Speaker 2 Clarifies: <10 min
Round 1

Speaker 1

Audience asks Speaker 2 Questions

Speaker 2

What was the dream about?

It involved Batman.
It all started with a nightmare about Batman. The fear in the nightmare made him question why some people find bats scary and led him to investigate fear responses to flying things.
Round 1

Speaker 1 is asked Q1 again

How did your research question emerge?
My research questions actually came to me in a nightmare about Batman!.....
Round 1

Online Self Evaluation Form

Speaker 1

What (if anything) changed between the initial and revised responses?

Please evaluate the speaker's delivery of revised response, by dragging and dropping items into boxes:
- Volume: Too soft  Too loud
- Speed: Too slow  Too fast
- Confidence: Could be improved  Good

What are the speaker's opportunities for the growth/improvement?

What did you learn from listening to/watching this speaker?

Online Feedback Form

Online Written Feedback: 5 min
Round 2

Speaker 2

Speaker 1

Audience

Speakers 1 & 2 swap roles
What are the theoretical underpinnings of your work?
End of Session

Speakers get feedback, videos, self evals
My research questions actually came to me in a nightmare about Batman!.....

We can compare the speaker responses