General Seminar Notes

#1 - Tell a story.

The data should drive the story, not the title, not the authors' conclusions, etc.

The data should drive the thesis, not the title, not the author's conclusions, etc.

You do not have to follow the organization of the paper.
For general biology and clinical studies it is usually a good idea to present the materials and methods after the background information. For cellular and molecular papers it is best to separate the materials and methods and present them with the particular experiment.

Make the thesis short.
What is the primary goal of the research.
Relate all results to the thesis.
When you are considering what to include ask yourself does it support your thesis? If it does not support your thesis, and especially if it muddies your story, delete it from your presentation.

The summary is not the same as the results.
While results will take a long time to explain, a summary should only include 1 or 2 points.
You are encouraged to include multiple summary slides during your presentation.
There should be at least one summary slide near the end of your presentation.

Retype tables. They do not reproduce very well.
Highlight specific parts of the table you want to point out to the audience.

Try to put in your own labels to the figures instead of just copying and pasting the entire figure.
Use colors consistently in your presentation.

Break apart figures.
For example: Figure A can be a slide then Figure 1B can be another slide.
The figure or table number needs to be on the slide but it is not the most important piece of information (make it a small font size). Instead title your slide with what is being measured or the specific experiment.

If you use a picture that is not in the publication it must be referenced on that slide.
You can use a small font size for the reference which can be a URL.

Make sure your title slide includes:
Title of article
Authors of the article
Reference of the article
Your name