2026 TAM Academic Project Submission Rubric

This rubric will be used to evaluate academic project submissions during jury review. Notification of acceptance to the academic project showcase will be emailed in late February 2026.

The submitter demonstrates knowledge and the ability to present material in an effective
and meaningful way.

4	3	2	1
High demonstration of knowledge, submission is very organized and indicates a clear ability to present material in an effective and meaningful way.	Demonstrated knowledge, submission is organized and indicated the ability to present material in an effective and meaningful way.	Adequate demonstration of knowledge, proposal is somewhat organized and may or may not indicate ability to present material in an effective and meaningful way.	Insufficient demonstration of knowledge, proposal lacks organization and may not indicate ability to present material in an effective and meaningful way.

The submission provides new perspectives and insights

4	3	2	1
Topic is current and will be interesting and applicable to attendees	Topic is current and content has potential to be applicable to attendees	Topic is not current, and/or content is marginally applicable	Topic is not current or content is not applicable.

I would recommend this presentation to an attendee interested in the subject matter.

4	3	2	1
High relevance, encourages different perspectives on current events, issues, and topics for attendees	Relevant topic meets professional development needs of attendees	Topic is narrow and lacks broad appeal for attendees	Topic is undeveloped and does not offer new insights or innovation for attendees

Articulation of Problem, Purpose, or Focus is clear.

3	2	1
Question, hypothesis, or position is articulated and defended in the context of the	Question, hypothesis, or position is stated clearly and context of the problem or	Question, hypothesis, position, purpose, or focus is not visible or stated clearly
problem or purpose; and/or A central purpose, focus, or essence of the work or performance is highly evident	purpose is apparent; and/or A central purpose, focus, or essence of the work or performance is evident	

Scholarly Context

3	2	1
Comprehensively places	Sufficiently places	The scholarly context for the
problem/question in an	problem/question in an	problem/question may be
appropriate scholarly context	appropriate scholarly context	apparent but is not sufficiently
(scholarly literature, theory,	(scholarly literature, theory,	demonstrated
model, or genre)	model, or genre)	

Spelling and Grammar

2	1
Minimal spelling & grammar mistakes	Noticeable spelling and grammar mistakes