


UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

TEACHING & LEARNING

## Avoiding Death by PowerPoint

Edward Taylor  
 Professor Emeritus  
 Lifelong Learning and Adult Education  
 Penn State University - Harrisburg  
 5.9.18




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## Avoiding Death by PowerPoint

“Nearly all men and women can stand a challenge, but if you really want to test a person’s character give them a power point presentation”




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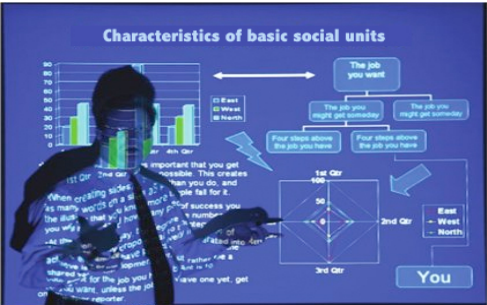
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What problems do you see with this presentation?




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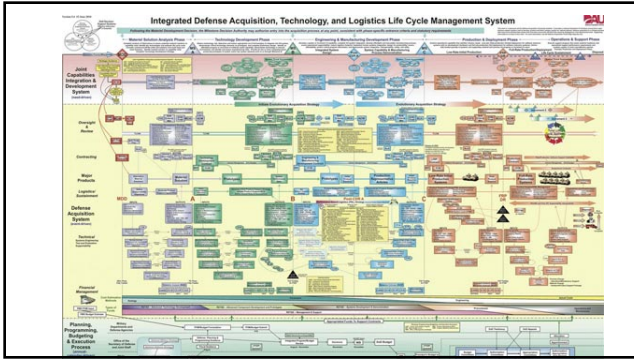
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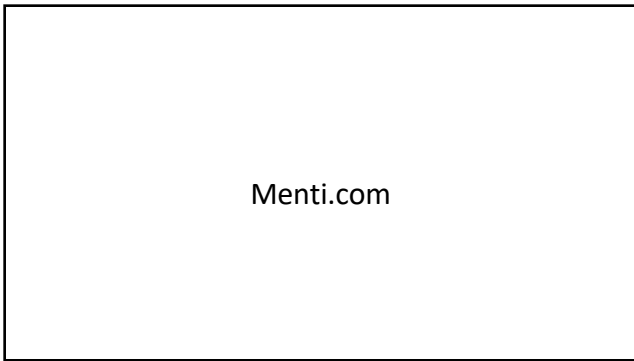
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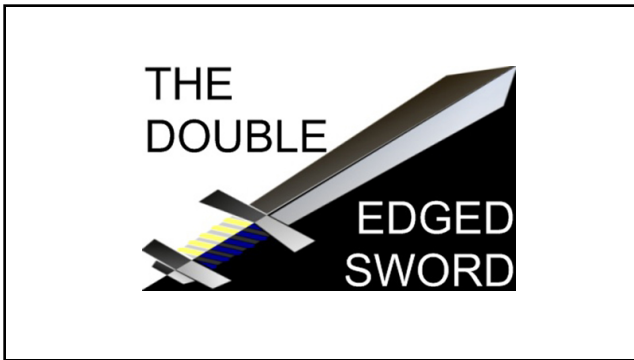
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THE  
DOUBLE  
EDGED  
SWORD

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Improvement	Attention	Organization
		
Reduce disruptive behavior	Visual Clarity	Attendance

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Concerns with Using PP

- Loses its positive effects over time
- Delivery has a big influence
- Inhibits interaction
- Excessive clutter
- Discourages reflective note-taking
- Communication preference
- Technical problems



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Presenter - Success Rest with You

Physical presence

- Relaxed
- Eye contact
- Variation in tone, speed, volume
- Movement

Prepared  
Knowledgeable  
Flexibility  
Plan B  
Arrive early!  
End on TIME!



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Do you want them to listen or read?



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Your PowerPoint Presentations!

In this next section of the presentation bring up on your computer one of your PP presentations

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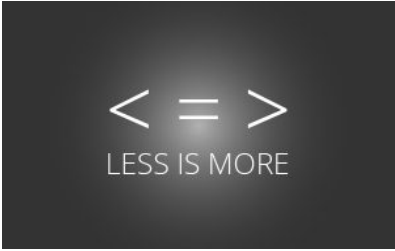
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Working Memory

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When Planning!!!!

10
SLIDES

20
MINUTES

30
PT FONT

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### Limit Bullet Points & Text

FORMAL/TRADITIONAL LECTURES <small>(ESCH, 2010; HARRINGTON &amp; ZAKRAJSEK, 2017)</small>	
<p><b>Positive</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• STUDENT LISTEN WITH MINIMAL INTERRUPTIONS</li> <li>• EFFICIENT (TIME, #, MONEY);</li> <li>• HIGHLIGHTS INSTRUCTOR'S EXPERTISE</li> <li>• EQUAL ACCESS/FAIRNESS</li> <li>• AT TIMES, INSPIRING</li> </ul>	<p><b>Negatives!</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNI-DIRECTIONAL</li> <li>• PASSIVE LEARNING</li> <li>• STUDENT-TO-STUDENT TALK IS DISCOURAGED</li> <li>• LISTEN AND TAKE NOTES INDEPENDENTLY</li> <li>• CORRECTING MISUNDERSTANDINGS LIMITED</li> <li>• ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT COMPREHENSION MINIMAL</li> <li>• STUDENT ABSENTEEISM OFTEN IS QUITE HIGH</li> <li>• LEAST EFFECTIVE FOR NOVICE LEARNERS</li> <li>• CONCENTRATION DROPPING AFTER 15-20 MINUTES (NEUROSCIENCE)</li> </ul>

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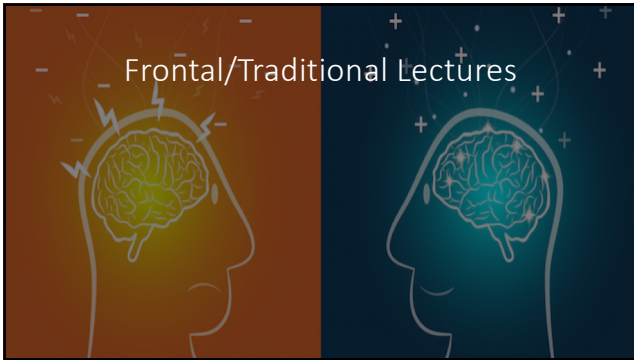
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Keep it simple!!!

- Students are here to see and hear you
- Students are here to interact with each other
- Only main ideas
- Nothing unnecessary
- No chart junk
- Include lots of white



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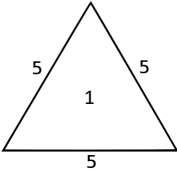
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1 5 5 5 Rule

- 1 Theme per slide
- Five words per line of text
- Five lines of text per slide
- Five text heavy slides in a row



*Print your slides and put them on the floor! Can you read them?*

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### Preparing Students in the Use of PP

- Students listening for Key Points
- Provide an overview of Slides
- Note taking
- Updating slides before every lecture
- More prepared, knowledgeable



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### Charts: "How much detail do I need?"



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### Animation/Transitions

- Use minimally
- Demonstrate series of steps or phases
- To make a point
- Be subtle and less obvious
- Be consistent



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### Pay Attention to Color & Fonts

Color reflects emotion and intensity

- Promote interest
- Increase understanding and comprehension



#### San-Serif

- Arial Black and Arial
- Helvetica

Avoid **Serif** Fonts (Times-Roman)



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Break into Pairs and Share/Discuss a Presentation

- What are the strengths?
- Ways it can be improved?



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