Effective Lecture Strategies

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Outline

- Strategies for effective lecturing
  - Preparation
  - Delivery
  - Using multimedia
  - Incorporating active learning
  - Ending
Learning Goals

• After today’s workshop, you will
  – Be able to list effective lecture delivery techniques
  – Understand the importance of incorporating active learning into lectures and have strategies to do so
  – Have designed an active learning activity for one of your lectures
Preparation
Preparation:  
*Getting Ready*

- Clarify with primary instructor
- Keep focus narrow; only a few key points!
- Check out your classroom in advance
- Don’t write out your lecture notes like a script
- Practice, practice, practice!
Preparation:

*Getting Ready*

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Delivery

Delivery:

*Before the Lecture*

- Post (incomplete) slides online for students
- Arrive early to set up
- Engage students in conversation (Davis, 2009)
Delivery:

*Starting the Lecture*

- Begin with an outline and learning goals
- If nervous, write out the first few minutes of your lecture
- Don’t be afraid to wander!
Delivery:

Body Positioning and Voice

Photo: http://ph.qmul.ac.uk/sites/default/files/alumni/GOJ_untitled10.jpg
Using Multimedia
It’s not PowerPoint that sucks.

It’s the speaker (that’s you) who is responsible for using it effectively.
Quick Poll

• How much of a 50-minute lecture do people remember 8 weeks later?
  A. 74%
  B. 54%
  C. 24%
  D. 4%
Only 24% of lecture content retained after 8 weeks!
Incorporating Active Learning
The Importance of Active Learning in a Lecture

• The 15-minute attention span (Bligh, 2000; Middendorf & Kalish, 1996)
Incorporating Active Learning:  
*Active Learning Strategies*

- Polleverywhere.com
- Small/Large Group Discussions
- Comprehension Quizzes
- Think-Pair-Share
- Practice Homework Problems
- Jigsaw
Jigsaw Method
Incorporating Active Learning: *Active Learning Elements*

- Think of an upcoming lecture you’ll be giving. Take 3 minutes to plan 1 active learning element for an upcoming lecture
  - Which strategy?
  - When to use it?
Ending

Ending: *Finishing Strong*

- Take 5 minutes to wrap-up the main points
- Go over those learning goals again and see if students feel they attained them
- Do some housekeeping to make sure students know what’s coming up
Ending:

After Your Lecture

• Make notes to yourself immediately after your lecture

• Can even add an extra slide at the end of your lecture and add it in there after your lecture
Review: Learning Goals

• After today’s workshop, you will
  ✓ Be able to list effective lecture delivery techniques
  ✓ Understand the importance of incorporating active learning into lectures and have strategies to do so
  ✓ Have designed an active learning activity for one of your lectures
Review:

*In Today’s Workshop, We...*

- Started with outline and learning goals
- Had 3–5 main points
- Reviewed learning goals at the end
- Incorporated active learning
  - Large group discussion
  - Online poll
  - Think-Pair-Share
Resources

Thank you!

Kaneb Center