

# Software Design for Data Science

## Giving Presentations

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# Bad presentations bore your listeners!



*Caveat: this lecture contains my personal opinions*

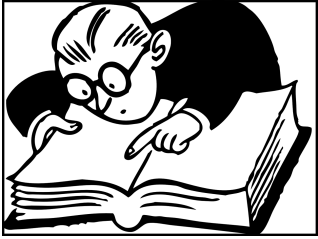
# Advice 1: Slides are not for reading

Too much text on a slide is distracting and redundant.

- People struggle with reading and listening at the same time.
- Your audience may be trying to read the slide instead of listening to you.
- If you read it word-for-word, it's redundant. What's the point of you even being there?
- It can be overwhelming and cause your listeners to glaze over and not remember anything.
- It's not immediately clear what the most important takeaways are.
- Full sentences contain lots of words that aren't actually important to your point.

***How much did you hate this slide?***

# Advice 1: Slides are not for reading



Reading

+



Listening



= confusion + boredom

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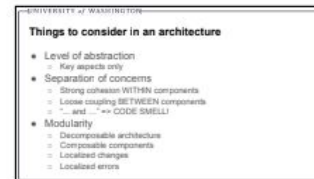
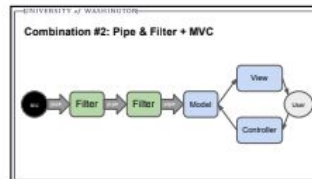
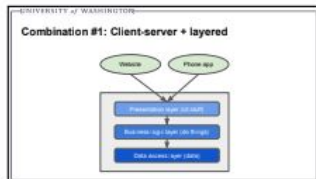
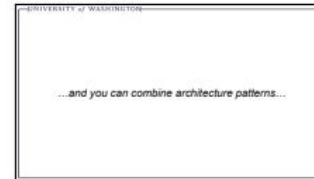
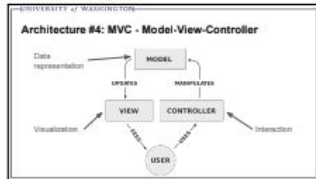
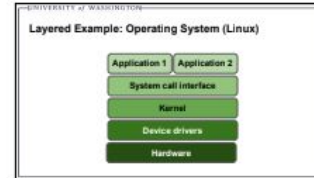
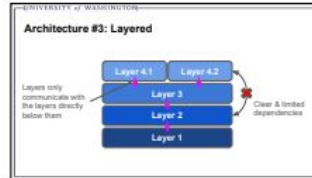
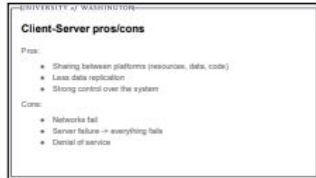
*How much did you hate this slide?*

## Advice 1: Slides are not for reading

- Limit text on each slide
  - No full sentences
  - Illustrative images
  - Short bulleted lists if needed
- Don't read your slides!



# Advice 2 (1b): Slides are not for handouts

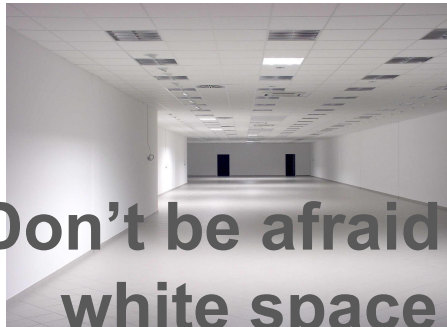


## Advice 3: Styling your slides



**Illustrative images**

**Big fonts!**



**Don't be afraid of  
white space**

**ANIMATIONS**

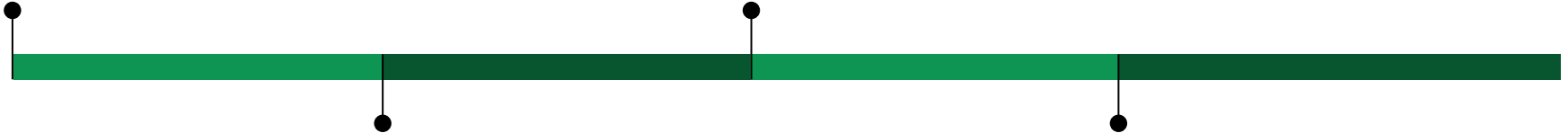
## Advice 4: Tell a story

**Hook**

**Content**

**Context**

**Conclusion**





## Advice 5: Prepare a script



## Advice 6: Live demos

Show, don't tell



## Advice 7: Interactivity

Ask questions / involve the audience with interactive elements



## Advice 8: Practice



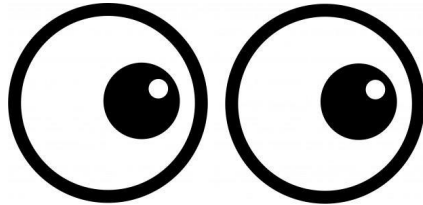
Your script



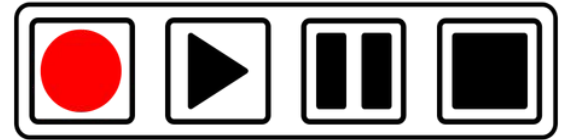
Enthusiasm



Timing



Eye contact



Record yourself

# Your DATA 515 final presentations

- 10 minutes
- Some of the “story” is already specified
- Strive for
  - Timing
  - No walls of text
  - Scripted
  - Enthusiasm