# Presenting Your Designs

# Designing Your Presentations

- 1. Know your audience
- 2. Focus their attention
- 3. Tell a story

- 1. Understand your users
- 2. Prioritize features
- 3. Design for flow

# Our ability to **present** speaks directly to our ability to **design**

Optimally, you want to **do good work and present it well**. But I'd rather have a good designer who can present well than a great designer who can't. In fact, I'd argue whether it's possible to be a good designer if you can't present your work to a client. Work that can't be sold is as useless as the designer who can't sell it.

And, no, this is not an additional skill. **Presenting is a core design skill.** 

—Mike Monteiro

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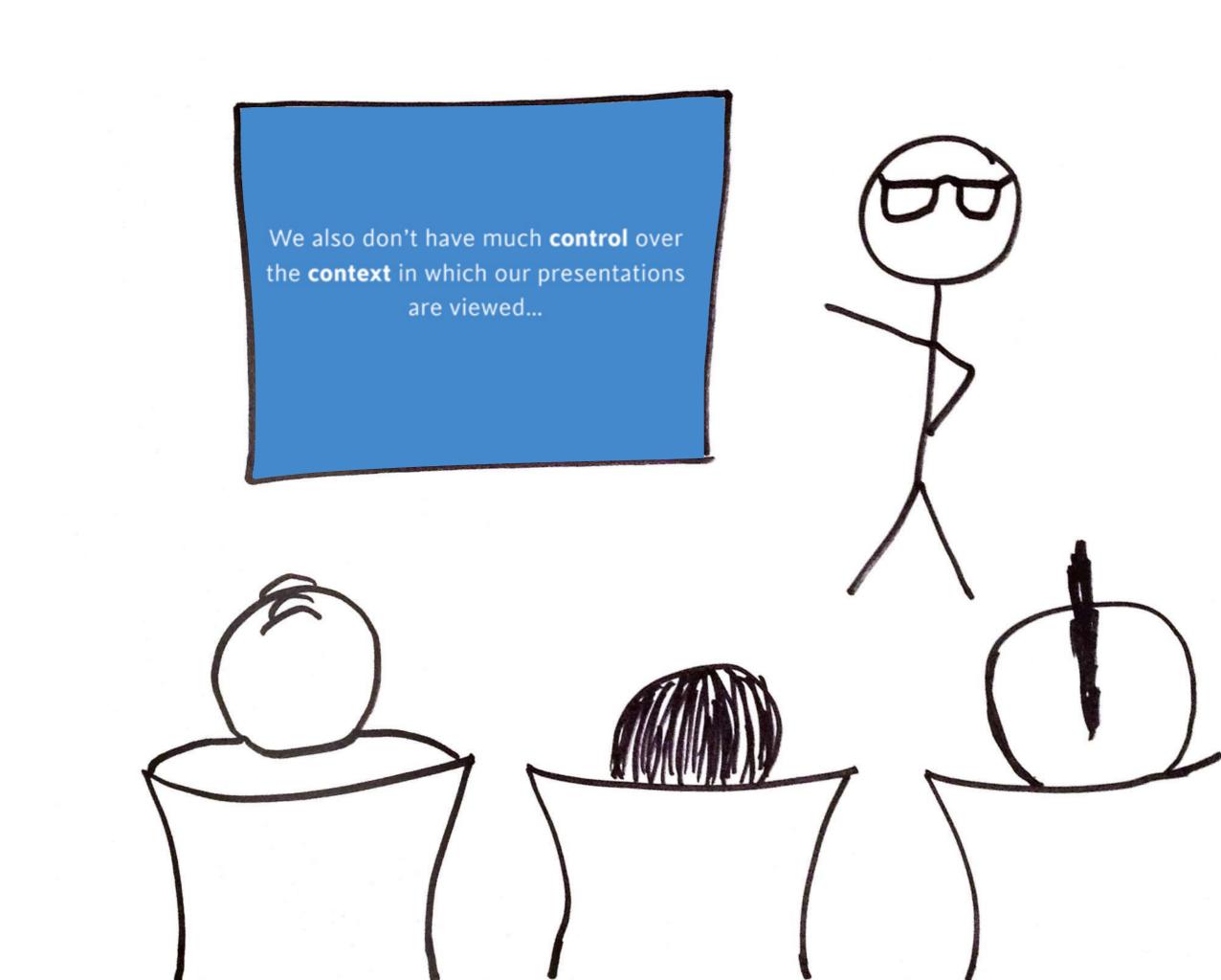
We also don't have much **control** over the **context** in which our presentations are viewed...



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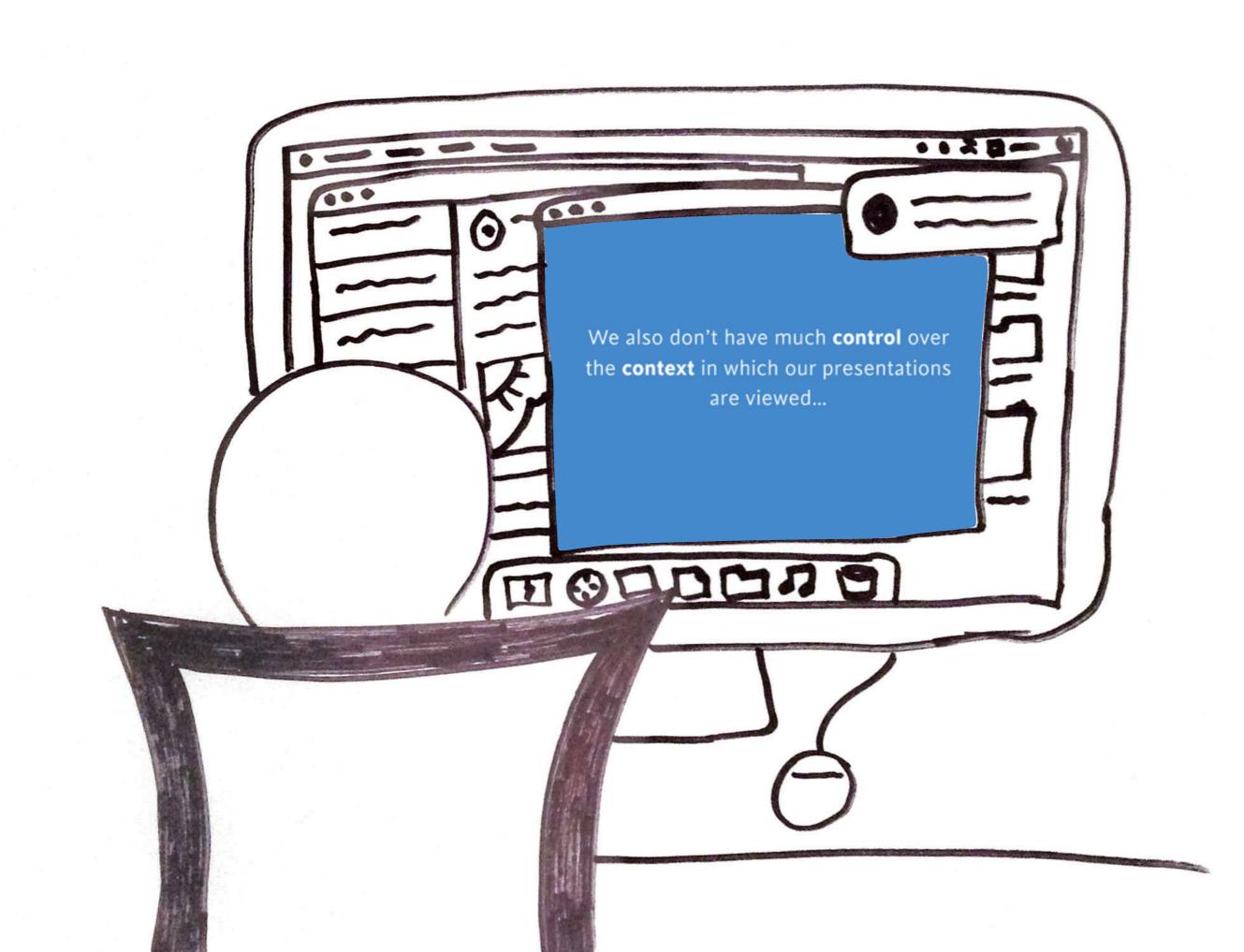


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#### The Problem

We'd like to prepare **slides** for a presentation that can work as **universally** as possible across **medium** and **context**, with only **minor tailoring** required for different uses.

#### The Audience

- Clients
- Hiring Managers
- Teachers
- Peers

#### Clients

- Want to see the value of the work
- May have little working knowledge of design
- Have other things to worry about
- Want to know what happens next

### Hiring Managers

- Want to see the process and quality of the work
- May have little working knowledge of design
- Form an impression very quickly

#### Teachers

- Want to see the process and quality of the work
- Have an allegedly stronger familiarity with research and design
- Can only allot a limited amount of time to evaluate the work

#### Peers

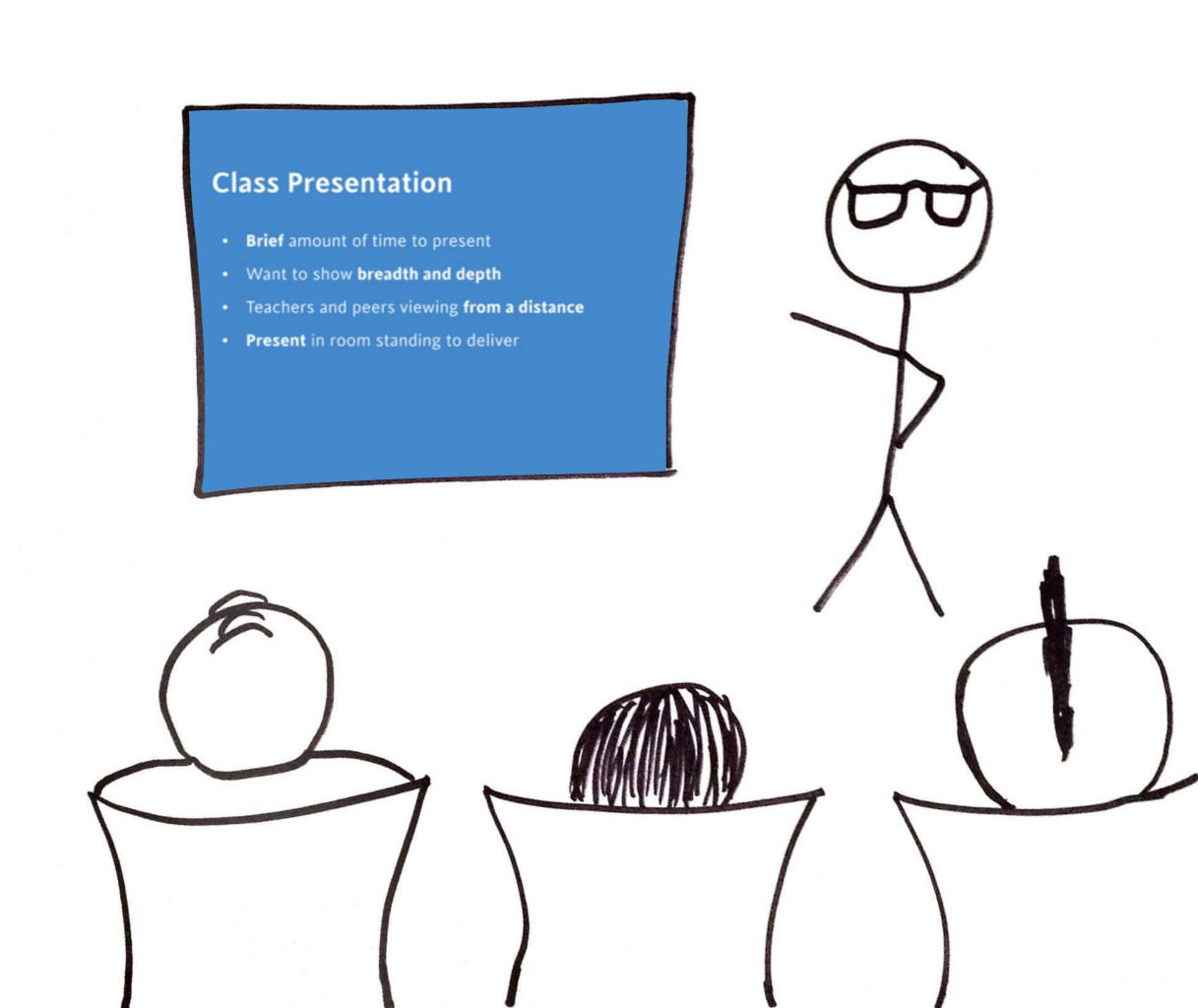
- Want to see the process and quality of the work
- Still forming their own opinions and practices
- Sitting through many presentations in a row

#### Address Common Needs

- Show the process and quality of the work
- Keep it brief and to the point
- Imbue personal style to stand out
- Express the value of design decisions
- Make the content accessible by avoiding jargon
- Provide clear next steps

#### **Contexts for Use**

- Class Presentation with Projector
- Small Meeting with Printout
- On a Mobile while Commuting
- On a Computer while Working



#### Class Presentation

- Brief amount of time to present
- Want to show breadth and depth
- Teachers and peers viewing from a distance
- Present in room standing to deliver



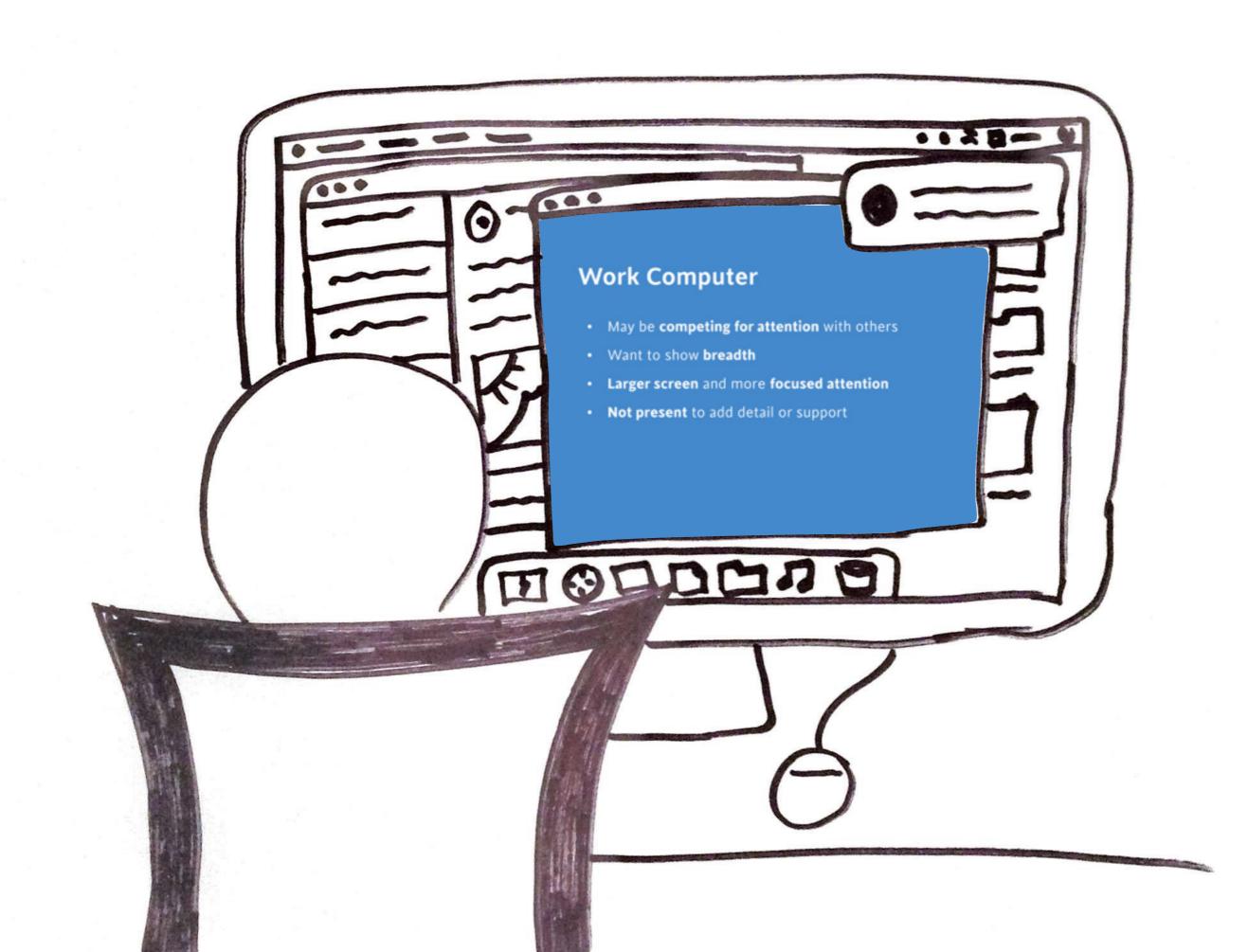
# Small Meeting

- Physical copy of slides for perusal and discussion
- Intimate setting allows for greater depth
- Conversation may jump around
- Present to provide extra impromptu detail



#### Mobile Device

- Small screen
- More potential distractions and interruptions
- High need to make a good quick impression
- Not present to add detail or support



# Work Computer

- May be competing for attention with others
- Want to show breadth
- Larger screen and more focused attention
- Not present to add detail or support

#### Worst Case Scenario

- Give readers the ability to skim for breadth
- Provide more detail for extra depth when not present
- Keep slides easy to understand at small sizes and from a distance
- Treat designer's presence to deliver or discuss
  presentation as an enhancement, not a requirement

#### Goals

- 1. Show the **process** and **quality** of the work
- 2. Keep it **brief** and to the point
- 3. Imbue **personal style** to stand out
- 4. Express the value of design decisions
- 5. Make the content accessible by avoiding jargon
- 6. Provide clear **next steps**

- 7. Give readers the ability to **skim for breadth**
- 8. Provide more detail for **extra depth** when not present
- 9. Keep slides easy to understand at small sizes and from a distance
- 10. Treat designer's presence to **deliver or discuss** presentation as an **enhancement, not a requirement**

# Thanks!