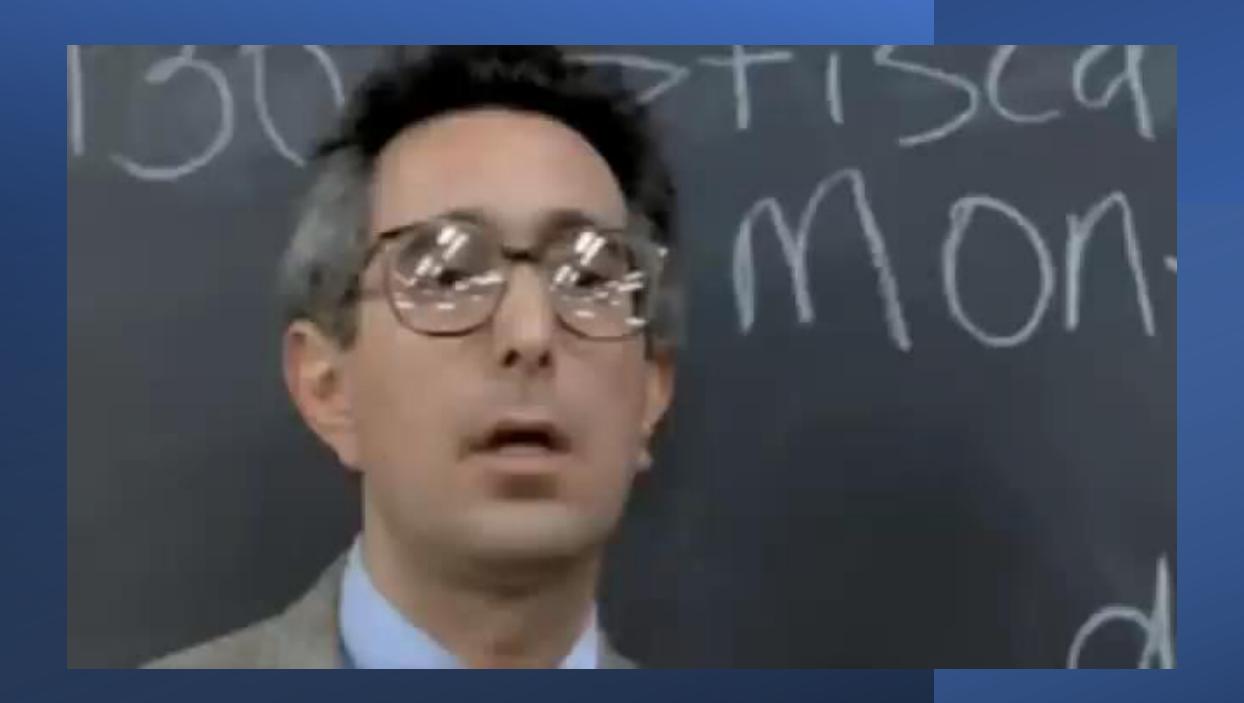
From Boring to Brilliant: Techniques for Delivering Powerful and Impactful Presentations

Lecture by John R Katsion

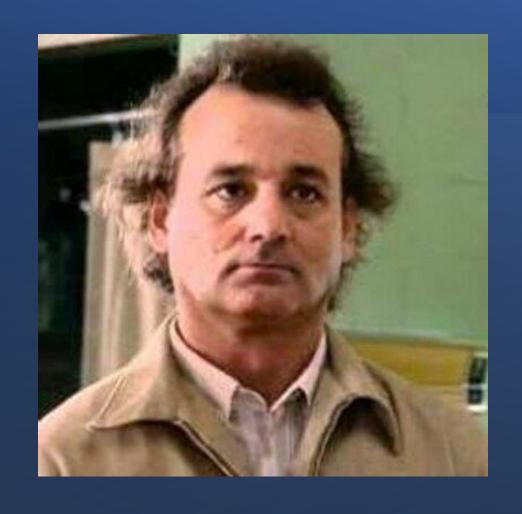






You are giving a Performance

- You need to be Audience Focused
- Most do not want to hear your music



There are two types of people in this world: Those who like Neil Diamond and those who don't. My ex-wife loves him (What About Bob).

Why should a student come to class?

• This will be a word cloud created in class

Community is an Excellent Reason

The pursuit of truth in the company of friends (Cowell College motto)

A subject-centered community (Parker Palmer)

Two Minute Scholar

- •Turn to someone and discuss this question:
- •What are some ways you can build community in your classroom?

Ways I Build Community

- Student interactions with other students
- Excitement for the subject
- Interactions before and after the class
- Do I know them as people?
- Respect for each other
- Lectures as opportunity to build community



Incentivize them to listen

Every great song has a hook

Why should they listen to this lecture?

Grab their attention

The pull of the phone is very strong

Realize you are not going to get everyone



Remember Your Audience has a Short Attention Span

- Average attention span is 12 18 minutes
- You need to give your students mental breaks
- Give them a chance to talk to their neighbor
- Give them a video/visual fix
- Think mini-lecture/activity/mini-lecture/activity format

Use Visual Aids

Visuals are proven to help audience retention

Do not read off the visual aid

Should be integral to your presentation

Should not be a running outline

Include the outline with the PowerPoint

Dive deep rather than blast a shotgun

It is easy for me to sum up a chapter in a lecture

Fills time

But little audience retention

Lacks connection

I need to dive deep into one area

Take one idea from that chapter

Take a controversial/hot-topic idea from that chapter

Naturally engaging

Go deep into that one idea



Teaching from the Microcosm

- Parker Palmer: Courage to Teach
- Find a topic or idea that demonstrates what he calls the logic of the field
- Every discipline has a gestalt, an internal logic, a patterned way to relating to the great things at its core (Palmer, 124).
- Every academic discipline has grains of sand through which its world can seen (Palmer, 125).



Use metaphor/simile as an organizational principle

- Can you outline your own lecture?
- Should have a clear organization
- Give a foundational metaphor that the students can use to organize the material
- In this lecture I am using music

Tap into the power of story/narrative

Walter Fisher calls us homo-narrans

Persuaded by the logic of the story more than the classical logic of the argument

We are by nature given to story

What would that look like in a lecture?

I am still experimenting

Personal story is one way I am incorporating story

Story in your introduction

Could your organizing metaphor be a story?