

Strategies for Using PowerPoint in the Classroom

- **Play Music to Set the Mood for Learning.**
An excellent way to set the mood for learning in the classroom is to play music in the background as students enter. This can help settle down large classes prior to the start of your instruction.
- **Get Your Students Thinking. Display a Question at the Beginning of Class.**
When students begin shuffling into class, one way to get them prepared to interact with your materials is to display a question at the front of the room. Go even further and invite them to speak about the question with a classmate and prepare to share their thoughts with the class.
- **Combine PowerPoint Presentation with In-Class Activities.**
Instead of showing an entire PowerPoint presentation straight through, pause it from time to time to do active in-class activities and exercises. Then return to the presentation.
- **Offer Fill-in-the-Blank Slides on Blackboard and Ask Students to Bring Them to Class to Finish.**
If you opt to leave certain text areas on the slides blank, students will need to attend and participate in lecture in order to complete their notes.
- **Compare and Contrast.**
Ask your students to take a survey on Blackboard. Use PowerPoint to compare and contrast their results with some other data group (e.g., national). Discuss the differences with your students.
- **Use Branching Presentations to Allow Students to Steer Conversation.**
Give students a choice to decide which topic they would like to discuss in class. A branching presentation will give you the ability to jump to different locations within a presentation.
- **Create Interactive Games**
It is possible to create highly interactive question and answer games in PowerPoint. Check out The PowerPoint Parade of Games website at <http://facstaff.uww.edu/jonesd/games/> This website has downloadable samples and templates of interactive games available for instructors.

Technology at the University of Hartford

Faculty Center for Learning Development (FCLD)

FCLD provides consulting and instructional support to faculty and staff who are using technology in teaching and learning. The FCLD Faculty Lab in Mortensen 203a is available for faculty support and use and is equipped with instructional technology- related equipment including: PCs, Macs, scanners, and projectors as well as support staff. Faculty and Staff needing support with Blackboard or other instructional technologies, should contact FCLD.

Phone: (860) 768-4661 **Email:** fcd@hartford.edu

Website: <http://www.hartford.edu/fcd>

Student Blackboard Support

The following is student support for Blackboard only. All other support technical support issues need to be addressed to the Office of Technology Services (below).

Phone: (860) 768-4636 **Email:** bbsupport@hartford.edu

FAQ/Submit a Ticket: <http://www.hartford.edu/studentbbsupport>

Office of Technology Services (OTS) Help Desk

For general computer and Internet/network support questions (not directly related to the classroom but rather passwords, Internet/email problems, Banner/Self-Service, campus Facebook).

Phone: (860) 768-4357 (on campus) or (844) 292-3213 (off campus)

Email: ots@hartford.edu **Website:** <http://hartford.edu/ots>

Media Technology Services (MTS)

Faculty should contact MTS for assistance scheduling or implementing classroom technology (2-Way interactive video classrooms, Smart Podiums, laptops, etc.), for setting up WebEx accounts, or for scheduling and instruction for a wide variety of media equipment and resources like LCD data projectors, CD/cassette players, TVs and VCRs, digital video, and more.

Phone: (860) 768-4643 (Main) or (860) 768-4662 (Tech Line)

Website: <http://www.hartford.edu/mts>