

5.95 (Spring 2009)

Homework 6

Due in class on Tuesday, 28 April 2009.

1. Using slides

Read the following items on using slides (both on the course website):

1. the paper by Jean-Luc Doumont on 'Slides are not all evil';
2. the online analysis by Edward Tufte, 'PowerPoint Does Rocket Science—and Better Techniques for Technical Reports'. At that site, read the first item (written by Tufte and dated September 6, 2005). The rest of the thread is optional but makes for further interesting reading.

Both items concern technical presentations and not teaching directly. From each reading, jot down one idea that you believe transfers to teaching (i.e. that applies to teaching and to technical presentations) and one that does not transfer to teaching.

Bring your lists to lecture on Tuesday (no need to turn them in).

2. Using blackboards

Based on the teaching principles that we've discussed so far, what are advantages and disadvantages of using blackboards versus slides? Write a few pros and cons down on your sheet and bring them to lecture (no need to turn them in).