RSMAS TA Training: Technology and Presentations
Outline

- Blackboard
- Wikipages
- Class webpage
- The power of videos
- Real-time data/events
- Extras
Introduction to Blackboard

- What can blackboard do for you?
  - Manage a student enrollment list
  - Email all students at once (send announcements)
  - Organize and store course documents
  - Student grades
  - Discussion forums
  - Student blogs
- Time for a demonstration!

http://www.courses.miami.edu
Easy way to incorporate online work
Great for group projects
Records individual participation
Allows for the creative application of web technology to course material
Can help ease TA grading workload
DEMONSTRATION!!
Resources and examples on my page:

http://scimadesensible.wikispaces.com

Check out the Education Teach-nology page:
- Info & links to many education technology tools
- Instructional video to get started on Wikispaces
Class Webpage

A great way to keep all relevant information in one place!

- Can host on RSMAS personal site*, a RSMAS lab server, a free blog site, or even Facebook
  - Example

- Good things to include:
  - Syllabus
  - Schedule
  - Links to readings
  - Powerpoints
  - Homework
  - Answer Guides
  - and much more.....

* for more information, visit http://rcf.rsmas.miami.edu/rcf/web.html
The Power of Videos

- Oklahoma City Hail Storm May 16, 2010
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OFv2W7Duqiw

- Why should you use videos?
  - They are unexpected!
  - They reach more learning styles.
  - They can be compelling to the audience and gain interest.
  - They break up a presentation.
  - They provide real-world application of concepts
Why use real time data?

- It connects learning topics to events students can relate to
- It provides a break from traditional lecturing
- It helps to show why what you are learning in the classroom matters
- It can be a great way to start a class period and get students interested

Some ideas- satellite data, a shark tracker, USGS earthquake data, news articles on recent coral events, Hurricane Hunter aircraft data, recent fieldwork data (with pictures if possible!)
Extras

- Podcasting
  - Publish video your introduction presentations, voice-overs of .ppt presentations, or recorded demonstrations.
  - Great resource for students who don’t learn well while taking notes & listening
  - Helps absentees catch up
  - “Distance Learning”
- Facebook
- Clickers
Resources

- Podcasting:
  http://www.cmu.edu/teaching/resources/PublicationsArchives/StudiesWhitepapers/Podcasting_Juno7.pdf

- Facebook:
  http://www.facebook.com

- Clickers:
  http://www.cmu.edu/teaching/clickers/pdfs/clickers-pedagogicalvalue.pdf