Simple Visuals for Complex Research

This poster seeks to demonstrate the illustrative power of simple diagrams to teach information-seeking concepts. Diagrams and images allow for quick, non-didactic introduction of big-picture concepts in the non-linear, detail-free style preferred by students of creative professions.

Classroom Activity

On the spectrum below place each post-it where you think the source or characteristic belongs on the spectrum of information reliability.

A failed attempt:

Try to avoid

Too many concepts.
Inconsistent visual style.
Gimmicky graphics.

Quote Sources


Evidence of Need

Landscape Architecture Students Classified by the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator

Architecture and Construction Management 3rd-Year Students Classified by the Kolb Learning Style Inventory

Students of the built environment share a personality-based need for creative, open-ended, discussion-sparking opportunities where the big picture is presented first. These techniques satisfy the learning (and teaching) styles preferred by the Intuitive Feelers and Intuitive Thinkers of Myers-Briggs, and the Assimilators and Convergers of Kolb.

Evaluate

Try to avoid

Too many concepts.
Inconsistent visual style.
Gimmicky graphics.

Quote Sources


Analogize

“[Architects] show a remarkable lack of enthusiasm for the written word.”

-M. Mackinder, Architect

“To see and be shown is now the will and new expectation of half-mankind.”

-Henry Luce, Founder of Life Magazine

“The Library is a Restaurant.”

-William Pereira, Architect