Infographics for Distance Learning

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What are Infographics?

• Images that combine information and graphics
• Short, to the point
• Sometimes augmented by text
• Make it easier to remember information
• Vibrant, fun, and engaging
• “A picture is worth a thousand words” (or ten thousand words!” [Barnard, 1927]
The Idiot’s Guide to Smarter Coffee Drinking

Science has figured out how to consume coffee for maximum benefit. And chances are, you’re doing it all wrong. That’s because the right way to drink coffee isn’t always intuitive.

Here’s 7 steps to becoming a smarter coffee drinker:

1. NO COFFEE BEFORE 10 AM
   As humans we are affected by the 24-hour hormonal cycle called the circadian clock, which controls the release of a hormone called cortisol. This hormone makes us feel alert and awake.

   Blame your biology for this:
   
   The only reason we crave it immediately upon waking is because we’ve trained our bodies to expect a jolt of caffeine. Think Pavlov’s dog. So quit being a well-trained dog and think Peak Cortisol 8-9am, 10am-11am, 1pm-2pm, and 5-6pm. The best time to drink coffee, therefore, is...
Why use Infographics?

- Appeal to visual learners
- Images can be universally understood
- Brain processes images faster than words
- Focus attention on topic through visuals
- Use complimentary colors to highlight information
- Easily show headlines / key topics
Special appeal to distance learners

- Help summarize information
- Lead learners to information
- Engage learners
- Clarify information to students
- Supplement lectures or textbook readings
- Show concepts, timelines, processes, and data visually
Dining Etiquette 101

The holiday season is around the corner, so let’s start new traditions by following old traditions. Here are some basic rules of etiquette at a formal table setting:

- **Silverware:** Place silverware in the order in which you will need it, starting with the outermost piece. Use the smallest fork and spoon for soups and desserts.
- **Glassware:** Use clear glasses for water and wine, and red wine glasses for red wine.
- **Napkins:** Place a napkin on the right side of the plate, with the top of the napkin folded over the left side of the plate.
- **Bread:** Place bread at the center of the table, with bread plates on the left side of the plate.
- **Glassware:** Use clear glasses for water and wine, and red wine glasses for red wine.
- **Cutlery:** Place cutlery in the order in which you will need it, starting with the outermost piece. Use the smallest fork and spoon for soups and desserts.
- **Gravy Boat:** Place gravy boats on the right side of the plate, with the gravy ladle on the left side of the plate.
- **Champagne Flutes:** Use champagne flutes for champagne.
- **Wine Glasses:** Use wine glasses for wine.
- **Champagne Flutes:** Use champagne flutes for champagne.
- **Napkins:** Place a napkin on the right side of the plate, with the top of the napkin folded over the left side of the plate.
- **Bread:** Place bread at the center of the table, with bread plates on the left side of the plate.
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- **Gravy Boat:** Place gravy boats on the right side of the plate, with the gravy ladle on the left side of the plate.
- **Champagne Flutes:** Use champagne flutes for champagne.
- **Wine Glasses:** Use wine glasses for wine.

**ETIQUETTE:** When eating soup, tilt the spoon away from you.

**HOLDING EYELASHES:** Rest your elbows on the table and your hands on your legs.

**EATING MINTS:** To get the last bit of your soup, fold the bowl in a quarter and pour it back into your mouth.

**CUTTING MEATS:** When cutting meat, always cut away from your body and always cut against the grain.

**PROPOSING A TOAST:** When proposing a toast, always raise your glass to your right cheek and then to your left cheek, before bringing the glass to your mouth.

**FINGERSTIPS:** Place your fingers in the center of the plate, with the tips of your fingers touching the plate.

**RESTING POSITION:** When eating, place your elbows on the table, with your hands on your knees. When eating soup, place your elbows on the table, with your hands on your legs.

**FINISHED POSITION:** When you have finished eating, place your elbows on the table, with your hands on your knees. When eating soup, place your elbows on the table, with your hands on your legs.
What are main types of Infographics?

- Chronological
- Comparison / Contrast
- Demographics / Geographic
- Relationships (charts, clouds, diagrams)
- Exploratory (road map, story, interactive)
- Statistical / Data
- Process-based (how to…)
- Useful Bait (reference or organizational chart, diagram or list)
Key Components for your Infographic

- Story
- Style
- Simplicity
- Size
- Statistics
- Sources
- Shareability
What do you want to say?

- Idea / Conceptualization
- Purpose
- Audience (age, prior knowledge)
- Research and gather data
- Create an outline and flowchart
  - Organize logically – left to right, top to bottom
  - Build to a clear conclusion
  - State a call for action at the end
  - Connect the points with the narrative
What do you want to say?

• Gather graphics
• Determine typography (1 or 2 fonts)
• Create layout
• Refine and review
• Link to sources at the bottom of the infographic
• Share the infographic
• Interactive (web page) or static (pdf)
Additional Considerations

- How do you want to show it or say it?
- What visual(s) would convey something you want to say?
- Do you need to worry about branding, logos, colors, fonts that you are required to use?
- Draw a pencil sketch of what you want to show
- Build based upon natural information flow
- Consider design elements and principles
3 BRANCHES of GOVERNMENT

Constitution
(provides a separation of powers)

Legislative
(makes laws)
- Congress
- Senate: 100 elected senators total; 2 senators per state
- House of Representatives: 435 elected representatives total; representatives based on each state's population

Executive
(carries out laws)
- President
- Vice President
- Cabinet: Nominated by the president and must be approved by the Senate (with at least 51 votes)

Judicial
(evaluates laws)
- Supreme Court: 9 justices nominated by the president and must be approved by the Senate (with at least 51 votes)
- Other Federal Courts

Created by Kids.gov
kids.usa.gov/three-branches-of-government
Elements of Design

- Color and value
- Dominance / size
- Line
- Shape
- Space
- Texture
- Typography and fonts
Design Principles

- Alignment
- Balance
- Contrast
- Emphasis
- Hierarchy
- Proportion and scale
- Proximity
- Repetition or pattern
- Rhythm and movement
- Unity
- Variety
Search Strategies

1. Describe your topic in a word or a phrase.

2. Circle the keywords in your description.

3. Write down synonyms or related words for your keywords.

4. Include indexed terms that you find during your searches.

5. Keep track of terms that give the best results for your research.

6. Contact the Reference Desk or Ask a Librarian for research assistance.
How to start?

• Start with a template
• Or use a grid layout
• Select color palette
• Structure typography (font, size, weight, color)
• Use icons to reinforce text
• Creative negative space (at least 20% margins)
• Use color and size to highlight information
Do you need special software?

- Use PowerPoint (templates available)
- Use Adobe Illustrator (AI)
- Use commercially available programs
  - Piktochart
  - Venngage
  - Easel.ly
  - Adobe Spark
  - Canva
  - Creately
  - Infogr.am
  - Wordle
Infographic Templates

• Links to templates are in the Infographics LibGuide (online resource)

• **Piktochart:** Infographic Layout Cheat Sheet
• **HubSpot:** 15 Infographic Templates in PowerPoint and Adobe Illustrator (AI)
• **Edraw:** Visualize multiple layouts
**Useful Bait**
Works well with most of the data
Easy to read and good usability

**Versus/Comparison**
Works well with a lot of informations
Design (visual) is very important
Informations have to be very interesting

**Heavy Data (numbers porn)**
Works well with marketing strategy
Timeline for project
Can extend to a flowchart
**Road Map**
Good for storyline/journey
Can be used as a timeline too

**Timeline**
Can be a comparison
Good for timeline or journey too
From simple to complex
(depending on your data)

**Visualized Article**
Needs strong title
Works well with heavy content
Easy to read and understand
FAU Students:

Your FAU NetID and Password are your identifiers when printing.

Use them to log onto:
- FAU Library Computers
- Cash to Account Machine
- Print Release Stations
- Print Website to:
  - add $5 via debit or credit card
  - use WebPrint from your device

Print to the Cloud

Per Page:
- 8 cents BW
- 30 cents Color

Money on Account:
- Use Cash to Account Machine
- Use debit or credit card online (Add Credit)

Money on Credit:

Choose Printer:
- BW 8¢ / pg
- Color 30¢ / pg

Print Release Station:
- Log on & pick up at nearest Print Release Station

Print from Your Laptop:
- Log onto www.fau.edu/print
  and choose WebPrint

Print @ The Library

1. Add funds to your print account.
   - Cash to Account Machine
   - Debit or Credit Card
   - www.fau.edu/print

2. From:
   - Library Computer
   - Laptop
   - Tablet
   - Mobile Device
   - Select document
   - Choose Print

3. Choose Printer

4. Log into Print Release Station (or copy machine)
   with your FAUnet ID & Password.
   - Items sent to Printer will appear.
   - Choose which items to print.
   - Money is taken from your account when you print.

See the Service Desk for assistance.
Reuse what Others have Made

- Search infographic repositories
- Search Pinterest
- Search Google, Bing, Duck, Duck Go or other search engine for the word “infographic” and your topic /subject
- Search .gov or .edu sites specifically
  - Site:.gov infographics
  - Site:.edu infographics
  - Site:nasa.gov infographics
Remember…

• If reusing an infographic, give credit.
• If reusing graphics, icons, etc., give credit.
• At the end of your infographic, link to your sources.

• Infographics LibGuide:
  • http://libguides.fau.edu/infographics-boca

• Images LibGuide:
  • http://libguides.fau.edu/images-boca