

2020 FALL SEMESTER
Zoom Online
Monday and Wednesday
10:15am-12pm

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Office Hours
By appointment (flexible)

MEJO 484

Information Graphics



Infographics are the result of using the rules of Information Design (one of the branches of Graphic Design) for telling news and entertainment stories. They are the best way to convey statistical information, locating a place or explaining complex processes and procedures.

MEJO 484 will provide you with the skills to create clear, accurate, informative and visually attractive Information Graphics using the most common tools in newsrooms and agencies worldwide.

Information Graphics

Policies

Honor Code:

I expect that each student will conduct himself or herself within the guidelines of the University honor system (<http://honor.unc.edu>). All academic work should be done with the high levels of honesty and integrity that this University demands. You are expected to produce your own work in this class. If you have any questions about your responsibility or your instructor's responsibility as a faculty member under the Honor Code, please see the course instructor or Senior Associate Dean Charlie Tuggle, or you may speak with a representative of the Student Attorney Office or the Office of the Dean of Students.

Seeking Help:

If you need individual assistance, it's your responsibility to meet with the instructor. If you are serious about wanting to improve your performance in the course, the time to seek help is as soon as you are aware of the problem – whether the problem is difficulty with course material, a disability, or an illness.

Diversity:

The School of Media and Journalism adopted Diversity and Inclusion Mission and Vision statements in spring 2016 with accompanying goals - <http://www.mj.unc.edu/diversity-and-inclusion>. The University's statement:

UNC is committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members of our community and does not discriminate in offering access to its educational programs and activities based on age, gender, race, color, national origin, religion, creed, disability, veteran's status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

Special Accommodations:

If you require special accommodations to attend or participate in this course, please let the instructor know as soon as possible. If you need information about disabilities visit the Accessibility Services website at <https://accessibility.unc.edu/>

ACCREDITATION

The School of Media and Journalism's accrediting body outlines a number of values you should be aware of and competencies you should be able to demonstrate by the time you graduate from our program. Learn more about them here: <http://www2.ku.edu/~acejmc/PROGRAM/PRINCIPLES.SHTML#vals&comps>

No single course could possibly give you all of these values and competencies; but collectively, our classes are designed to build your abilities in each of these areas. In this class, we will address a number of the values and competencies, with special emphasis on the last seven bullet dots under "Professional values and competencies" in the link above.

ZOOM GUIDELINES FOR QUALITY ONLINE LEARNING EXPERIENCE & OUR CLASS RULES OF THE ROAD:

Our Road:

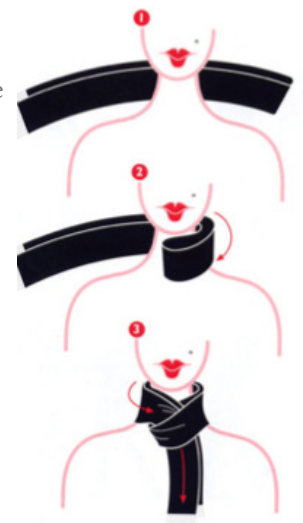
- >Try treat this like our regular classroom to normalize as much as possible
- >Be present — video/audio/chat. However, you can mute your audio until you are ready to speak to keep distractions down.
- >Dress appropriately
- >At some point internet issues will happen. If your Internet goes down during class, please log back on as soon as possible. If the professor's Internet goes down, all students should wait a few minutes to allow the professor to reconnect and then log back on.
- >If you are having trouble logging on, please continue to do so while class is in session, but please email the professor or communicate to someone in the class who can pass the word along (or both).
- >Aim to join class early to ensure a proper connection (keep trying if there are issues and alert via email).
- >Raise your hand, use hand icon or the chat to get attention at anytime. Please help each other and the professor if someone is trying to get attention or trying to be heard. We need each other for support and to make this the best experience.
- >Class will be recorded each day, but not made public. You can re-watch and review at any time.

Some ways that students can help the professor so we can focus on learning with minimal distractions

Students can volunteer for these helpful roles throughout the semester:

- > Technology Troubleshooter - helps others with their technology
- > Chat Monitor - monitors the chat window for questions or shared resources
- >Others roles????

Everyone: Please speak up about anything that could help students or the professor during our sessions.



Nigel Holmes, "Wordless Diagrams"

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Assignments and grading

Grading

Grading will be based on two exercises and four projects. The grading scale is below.

Components

| | Percent of total |
|---------------|------------------|
| Two exercises | 10% |
| Project 1: | 20% |
| Project 2: | 20% |
| Project 3: | 20% |
| Project 4: | 25% |
| Participation | 5% |
| Total | 100% |

Scale

| Points | Grade |
|--------------|-------|
| 94-100 | A |
| 90-93 | A- |
| 87-89 | B+ |
| 83-86 | B |
| 80-82 | B- |
| 77-79 | C+ |
| 73-76 | C |
| 70-72 | C- |
| 67-69 | D+ |
| 63-66 | D |
| 65 and below | F |

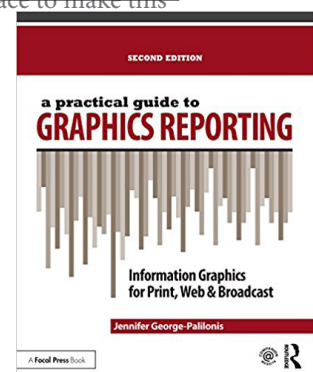
For grad students: The grade of H is reserved for truly outstanding work, and it is given rarely. A grade of P is the most common grade, and one students should be proud of. A grade of L is cause of concern. These grades do not have a numerical value. Some project demands and deliverables will have more rigor than undergraduates.

Items to purchase

~~A few assignments will require a color print. It is up to you to figure out the best place to make this happen before the deadline.~~

Portable hard drive may be needed. Remember that you are responsible for backing up your work. No deadline will be extended due to loss of files. You will need a sketch book or paper for roughly sketching your ideas.

Textbook: second edition of
A Practical Guide to
GRAPHICS REPORTING
by Jennifer George-Palilonis



Attendance Policy

Each student will be allowed up to two absences. Additional absences will result in a 5% reduction in your final grade. If you are going to be absent, it is your responsibility to email the professor before class.

Grading criteria

These are the main general grading criteria I will be using for the projects:

1. Creativity/Visual Impact
 2. Technical/Execution Quality
 3. Research and parsing of the research for clear communication
 4. Proofing
 5. On-time delivery
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NOTES:

IAAR-SLATE

Along with many other courses across UNC, this course is participating in an important initiative by the Institute of African American Research called Student Learning to Advance Truth and Equity. IAAR-SLATE seeks to increase undergraduates' grasp of race, racism and racial equity. All courses, like ours, in the program will include at least six required activities that explore this topic. By enrolling in this course, you are also committing to joining in all of the assigned activities for the program, some of which are in-class and some of which take place outside of our class time. We will discuss some material together in our class, but we will also have opportunities to meet and learn from people whose work or lives help us understand race, racism and racial equity better. In some of the activities, you will also be able to dialogue with students in other courses who are also participating in the same required activities.

As part of participating with this, there will be a few short reflections assigned.

SPECIAL NOTE:

This semester is different and may be a source of anxiety for many reasons, so if any student need or concern or challenge, and want discuss any issues with the professor, they should feel free to reach as necessary.

This is the first time all my classes are being taught online, so if at any point you have suggestions that may help the class run more smoothly or that can help enhance the learning experience, please let me know.

My Goal is for you to have an incredible semester!

Information Graphics

Course calendar

NOTE: This schedule is a guide and may change depending on the classes' progress and needs

| | | Discussion | Notes |
|-----------|--------------|--|---|
| August | Monday 10 | Introduction to the course, orientation to the lab, and setting goals. | |
| | Wednesday 12 | Reviewing of basics, history and discussion. REWIND: Pen tool review. | Class Discussion: Chapter 1 discussion |
| | Monday 17 | Maps, charts and color | Exercise one due |
| | Wednesday 19 | Maps, charts and color | |
| | Monday 24 | Building big infographics and enterprise Project 1 info | Exercise two due |
| | Wednesday 26 | Project 1 Talk about possible direction of individual projects and discuss notes (one-on-one Zooms toward end of class) | Class Discussion: Chapters 2 to 4 |
| | Monday 31 | Project 1 | Class Discussion: IAAR |
| September | Wednesday 2 | Project 1 Rough drafts with main illustration and structure tight | |
| | Monday 7 | Holiday | |
| | Wednesday 9 | Project 1 Prelim review | |
| | Monday 14 | Project 1 | Project one due |
| | Wednesday 16 | Introduce project 2 | |
| | Monday 21 | Project 2_ one-on-one Zooms toward end of class | |
| | Wednesday 23 | Project 2 | Class Discussion: IAAR |
| | Monday 28 | Project 2 Prelim | |

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Course calendar

| | | Discussion | Notes |
|----------|--------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| | Wednesday 30 | Project 2 | |
| October | Monday 5 | Project 2 Introduce project 3 | Project 2 due |
| | Wednesday 7 | Project 3 Leaders/categories in place | |
| | Monday 12 | Project 3 research | University Day No class during ceremony |
| | Wednesday 14 | Project 3 Library resources | |
| | Monday 19 | Project 3 | Class Discussion: IAAR |
| | Wednesday 21 | Project 3 Prelim | |
| | Monday 26 | Project 3 | |
| | Wednesday 28 | Project 3 due Introduce Project 4 | |
| November | Monday 2 | Project 3 upload Project 4 | |
| | Wednesday 4 | Project 4 | |
| | Monday 9 | Project 4 Strong structure in place | |
| | Wednesday 11 | Project 4 Prelim | |
| | Monday 16 | Project 4 | |
| | Wednesday 4 | Project 4 due | |
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