

UNEG Professional Development Seminar
7 May 2018
Meeting Room: Ethiopia (C 285)

Data Visualisation Training

Trainer: Andy Kirk

Description of the training: The 'Data Visualisation and Infographic Design' workshop aims to provide delegates with an accessible and comprehensive introduction to data visualisation and infographic design.

The focus of the training is to teach the craft of this discipline, helping delegates to know what to think, when to think about and how to resolve all the analytical and design decisions involved in any data-driven challenge.

The approach to teaching this subject is not framed around specific tools or applications. Across the session there will be references for some of the most common, contemporary technologies but the emphasis is on the underlying craft, regardless of your tools or skills.

Whether we realise it or not, we are all frequent consumers of visualisation and infographic designs so improving the sophistication of how one reads, interprets and evaluates the effectiveness of such displays is a key literacy.

Workshop purpose: There are four over-riding objectives for this workshop:

1. To challenge your existing thinking about creating and consuming visualisation works, helping to clarify your convictions about the differences between good and bad visualisation design.
2. To enlighten you with an appreciation of the wide range of analytical and design options, including chart types, features of interactivity, annotation, colour applications, and composition.
3. To equip you with an efficient workflow giving you the confidence to make astute choices based on sound principles and practical guidelines.
4. To inspire you to elevate your ambitions, by broadening your visual vocabulary and exposing you to the latest techniques and contemporary resources for developing your data visualisation capabilities.

Workshop style: The content is delivered through a blend of teaching, discussion, and group practice. The practical exercises vary in nature from evaluating work, conceiving ideas, and forensically assessing design choices.

What participants should bring: Attendees are required to bring (ideally, fully-charged) laptops to use as a convenient workspace for the session. The only software requirements are Excel, a browser and PDF reader, no other technical knowledge or skill-based prerequisites exist.

Above all, the most critical attribute is your curiosity - an instinct for and interest in discovering and sharing insights from data - and your appetite to find a fresh approach to communicating data through visual representation and presentation. You should be willing to contribute to and learn from discussions during class exercise activities and do so in a respectful and constructive manner.

Material/documents that will be shared with participants in advance: Materials will be issued digitally via a Dropbox folder. You will be able to access the materials via this link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/obsm9606lbepsma/AACyLo88nCYz64RB8NEzcU0Ha?dl=0> from Monday 30th April. This folder will include all teaching presentations and exercise resources.

Agenda: The workshop is structured around a proven design workflow. Across the session delegates will build up, stage by stage, a detailed understanding of all the different aspects of decision-making that goes into any data visualisation or infographic design work.

Time	Session Description
9:00	WELCOME
	Workshop introduction and objectives
9:15	Defining data visualisation
	Exercise 1 – Instinctive critical evaluations Discussion
10:15	1. Formulating your brief
	Exercise 2 – A question of context Discussion
10:30	AM BREAK
11:00	2. Working with data
	Exercise 3 – Data familiarisation
11:30	3. Establishing your editorial thinking
	Exercise 4 – Editorial Brainstorming Discussion
11:50	4. Developing your design solution
12:00	4.1 Data representation
12:30	LUNCH
14:00	Exercise 5 – Making data representation choices Discussion
14:50	4.2 Interactivity
	4.3 Annotation
	Exercise 6 – Design forensics
15:30	PM BREAK
16:00	4.4 Colour
	4.5 Composition
	Exercise 6 – Design forensics cntd. Discussion
16:50	Wrap-up and review
17:00	FINISH