

**Designing Lectures: Are you a Sensual Teacher?**

We all learn through our five senses: seeing, hearing, smelling, tasting, and touching. While the last three may have limited usefulness in a lecture setting, visual images can play an important role in learning. Images in our brain give us the concepts on which we construct language, and physical objects show conceptual relationships. Because of this, images are by far the easiest thing for the human brain to remember.

[Zull, J. The Art of Changing the Brain, p. 145]

Which course principles are key for your CSUN students to grasp this semester, and what visual images can you design to help illustrate them?

**The Plan**

Ponder the question above, then consider the following visual-spacial options from which we might augment our lectures. Note that some provide for a more holistic image, and thus are more memorable.

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|------------------|--------------------------|
| * objects        | * photographs            |
| * diagrams       | * comic strips           |
| * field trips    | * experiments            |
| * demonstrations | * role plays             |
| * maps           | * fine art               |
| * timelines      | * outlines               |
| * graphs         | * charts                 |
| * video clips    | * advertising billboards |

- \* Blueprints for Thinking: Venn Diagram, Matrix, Compare/Contrast Chart
- \* Graphic Syllabus -- 1-page diagram or flow chart of your course to accompany your standard syllabus

Go to the CELT e-Tip site and click on e-Tip #4 for an article on how to develop a Graphic Syllabus for your course:  
<http://www.csun.edu/~celtact/index.html>

- \* Learning Style Quiz that your students (and you) might take online:  
<http://www.sandymaynard.com/test/index.html>

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Food for thought!

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