

Project 03: Diagram

For your thirds project, you will create an explanatory diagram. This can explain a process, break down a complex structure or represent a detailed overview of a location or concept.

As usual, the graphic must have a strong informational component.

The subject matter is up to you, as before, and must have some level of news value.

It is your responsibility to identify a subject, do the necessary research to obtain the data, write and closely edit any copy, then draw the diagram and design and execute the final graphic.

You can use any of the categories of diagrams we talk about in class — annotated, process, cutaway or exploded view — or a combination of more than one. The main visual of this graphic, though, must be some sort of explanatory diagram, based on an illustration that you create. If your project calls for it, you may add any other kind of visual, including a map or chart, as well as any secondary diagrammatic renderings. Photographs are acceptable as long as you have A) the rights to use them, and B) they are not the focal point of your finished graphic.

FORMAT

The finished print product can be any size, but work within a 60-pica wide maximum. It must also respect a grid on that page, but this time you can determine the number of columns in your page grid. Here are columns widths — choose the one that works best for you:

# COLUMNS	4-COL	5-COL	6-COL
1	14p3	11p2	9p2
2	29p6	23p4	19p4
3	44p9	35p6	29p6
4	60p	47p8	39p8
5		60p	49p10
6			60p

WHAT TO TURN IN

You must include your final graphics style that includes any updates. Any and ALL material associated with your research (all source material, Excel files, screen captures or links of Web sites, any reference material that helped you draw the your images) MUST be included.

REQUIREMENTS

Headline, explainer, clear labeling, source and credit line, as usual. The finished graphic must include the diagram as its visual focus, and the diagram must be drawn/created by you. A post to j464.net/s21 is required by the Friday following the deadline date.

OBJECTIVES

- Solid journalistic judgment, in the selection of topic, your ability to research it, write text clearly and accurately present a graphic that is informative and attractive;
- Graphic skills that will allow you to draw accurate diagrams with a suitable amount of detail and make them easy to navigate using your graphics style;
- Creativity in terms of producing a cohesive, navigable graphic that leads readers comfortably through the subject.

CRITERIA

Your grade will reflect how well you accomplished the above objectives, as well as the degree of difficulty you set for yourself, the quality of your reporting and writing and the accuracy of all aspects of your finished package. Quality of illustration weighs heavily.

DEADLINE: Beginning of class (1:45) on Monday, April 19

(Your reflection post on j464.net/f20 is due on the Friday following the deadline.)