

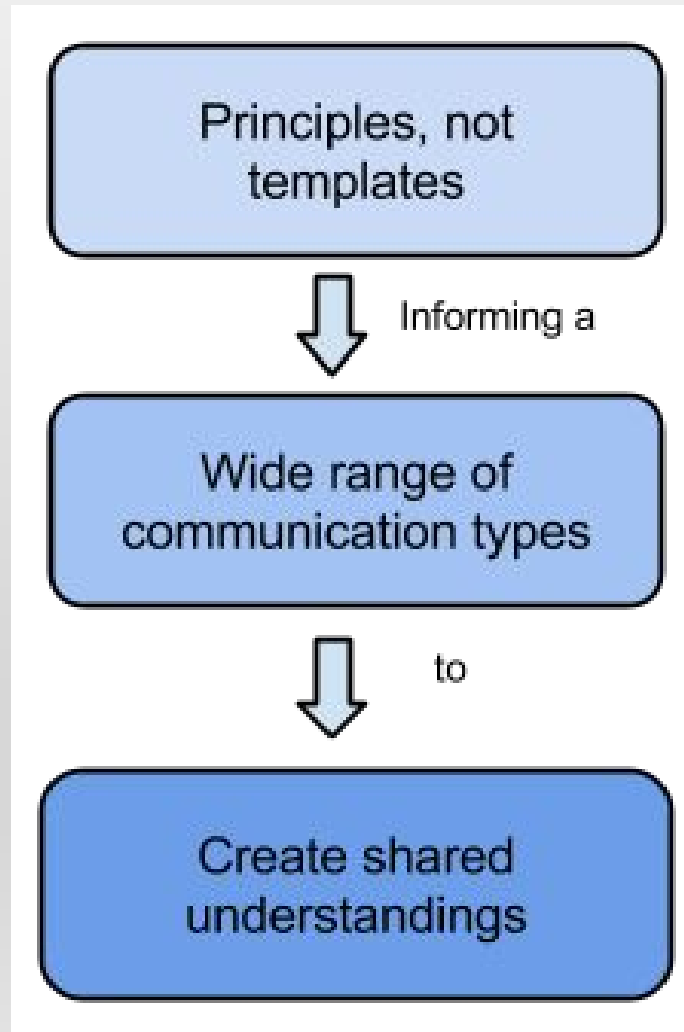
# Intersections between Communication and Information Literacy in Engineering Education

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# Engineering Communication: An integrated approach



- Communication “in the disciplines”
- Often linked to design
- ECP works with students to develop their disciplinary communication expertise throughout the core curriculum (Years 1 – 4)
  - Design and Communication courses
  - Design Portfolios
  - Capstone/Thesis Projects
  - Tutoring

Principles, not  
templates

## Principle

Structure a logical argument in an engineering context

Organize communication for an intended audience

Develop clear, correct, and cohesive sentence and paragraph structures

Deliver oral communication effectively to an intended audience

Create clear and appropriate visuals to represent engineering ideas

Wide range of  
communication types

- Emails, texts, IM, discussion boards, wikis, social media posts
- Phone calls, meetings, informal office or client conversations
- Written notes, outlines, drafts, rough sketches, whiteboard or flip chart materials
- Drawings, slides, animations, posters, models, prototypes
- Formal written documents
- Formal and informal presentations
- Verbal and nonverbal communication
- ...

Create shared understandings

- Different *specific* purposes for engineering communication, e.g.,
  - Describe
  - Analyze
  - Inform
  - Persuade
  - Instruct

BUT

- *Fundamental* purpose is creating a shared understanding between author(s) and audience(s)

# Intersections between Communication and Information Literacy

- ACRL Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education (2015)
  - “foster enhanced engagement with the core ideas about information and scholarship within [the] disciplines”
- **Activity for this part of the session:**
  - **Where/how do you see these intersections happening in your own practice?**
  - **Where/how *would you like to see* these intersections happen?**

Principle	ACRL Threshold Concepts
Structure a logical argument in an engineering context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Authority is Constructed and Contextual</li><li>• Information Creation as a Process</li><li>• Information has Value</li><li>• Research as Inquiry</li><li>• Scholarship as Conversation</li><li>• Searching as Strategic Exploration</li></ul>
Organize communication for an intended audience	
Develop clear, correct, and cohesive sentence and paragraph structures	
Deliver oral communication effectively to an intended audience	
Create clear and appropriate visuals to represent engineering ideas	