IRIG Forum
ACRL Visual Literacy Standards Task Force Report

By Millie Fullmer and Stephanie Beene

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The Task Force:

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Agenda

The Task Force's progress so far (with more info' in the next slides):

- The formation of a wordpress website
- Two drafts of the new Visual Literacy Standards aligned with the Framework
  - How the group has organized its work across different platforms and through various communication strategies (e.g., Trello, Zoom, Google Drive)
  - Conceptual underpinnings between the two drafts which have continued to inform our research, and which is guiding our next steps (We are calling these Tricky Concepts).
- A Zotero bibliography of over 400 sources from which the Task Force has drawn concepts, literature reviews, and inspiration for crosswalking between the standards and the framework
- A preliminary glossary of updated terms drawing from a literature review, as well as a preliminary introduction to the revised and updated work

- And.... Future strategic planning and work for the Task Force

Introduction

The Board for the Association for College and Research Libraries (ACRL), in coordination with the Image Resources Interest Group (IRIG) convened the Visual Literacy Task Force in February 2018, to update the original 2011 *[ACRL Visual Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education](#)* and align them with the 2016 *[ACRL Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education](#)*. Since that time, the Visual Literacy Task Force has been busy.

https://acrlvisualliteracystandards2018.wordpress.com/

ACRL Visual Literacy Standards 2018

ABOUT   NEWS   RESOURCES   FEEDBACK

Select portions of drafts

Vis Lit Standards *3:4b. Seeks expert and scholarly opinion about images, including information and analysis found in reference sources and scholarly publications*
Framework: question traditional notions of granting authority and recognize the value of diverse ideas and worldviews

- SARA'S VERSION 1:Recognize ways in which certain creators and interpretations are privileged through access to technology and differences in cultural, design, and scholarly practices
    - Google comment: KATIE: Should something be added to this about critically evaluating how authority is granted/upheld/understood in these contexts?
  - SARA'S VERSION 2: DISPOSITION "question ways in which certain creators and interpretations are privileged through access to technology and differences in cultural, design, and scholarly practices"
    - ADDED "evaluate the ways authority is granted and perpetuated in social systems throughout the process of production, dissemination, and consumption of visual materials."

Zotero Bibliography

- Linked from the wordpress site under a Select Bibliography, also available at:
  https://www.zotero.org/groups/2264485/acrl_visual_literacy_taskforce/items
- 439 items, spanning from 1970 to 2019
- In the following categories and folders:
  - Visual Literacy and Critical Visual Literacy (176 items)
  - Metaliteracies and Disciplinary Applications of Information Literacy (105 items)
  - Futures Thinking (54 items)
  - ACRL Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education and Threshold Concepts (35 items)
  - Critical Information Literacy and Critical Pedagogy (35 items)
  - Information Literacy (Pre-Framework + Project Information Literacy) (22 items)
  - Crosswalks/Competencies using both Visual Literacy and Information Literacy/Framework (and/or other Standards) (14 items)

Glossary
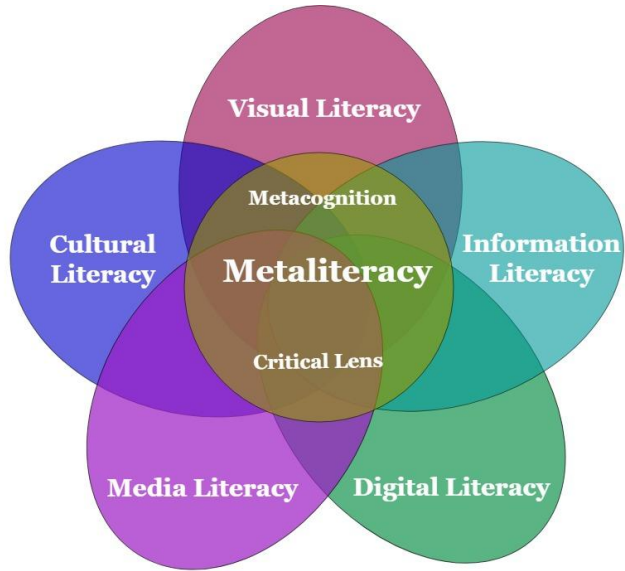
Literacies Landscape by Sara Schumacher created in draw.io
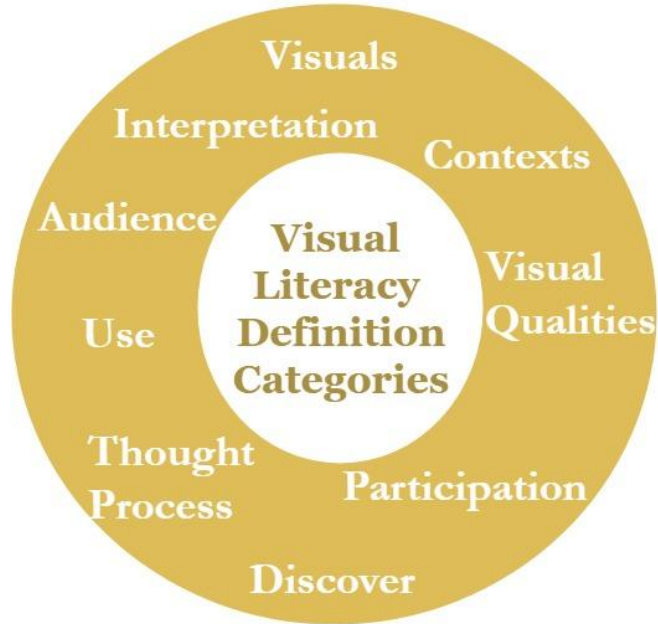
Visual Literacy Definition Categories by Sara Schumacher created in draw.io

Communication Strategies

Conceptual Underpinnings/tricky concepts

- ○ Terminology challenges
- ○ Aligning and extending the 2011 Standards to the 2016 Framework in a more objective way, rather than subjective
- ○ Reaching out to disciplines external to art and design librarianship
- ○ Drawing from both conceptual and empirical research to engage critical visual literacies, being fluent in both as the Standards are empirical and great for assessment and the Framework is flexible, fluid, and more conceptual.

Future strategies

Includes reaching out to stakeholder groups (e.g., the International Visual Literacy Association, the Visual Resources Association, the Art Libraries Society of North America and the UK/Ireland), conducting and continuing empirical research, and pursuing outreach and advocacy opportunities, such as presentations and workshops at relevant conferences.

Photo by Patrick Perkins on Unsplash

Thank you!

Questions?