Prezi & Concept Maps

Among its many functions, Prezi can be used to create concept maps…

- **Defined:** “Concept maps are graphical tools for organizing and representing knowledge. They include concepts, usually enclosed in circles or boxes of some type, and relationships between concepts indicated by a connecting line linking two concepts. Words on the line, referred to as linking words or linking phrases, specify the relationship between the two concepts. We define concept as a perceived regularity in events or objects, or records of events or objects, designated by a label. The label for most concepts is a word, although sometimes we use symbols such as + or %, and sometimes more than one word is used. Propositions are statements about some object or event in the universe, either naturally occurring or constructed. Propositions contain two or more concepts connected using linking words or phrases to form a meaningful statement. Sometimes these are called semantic units, or units of meaning.”

- Good concept maps are generally focused upon a single topic, or ‘focus point’. In the parlance of Prezi, this means that you should try to give each segment of your presentation discrete starting and stopping points. Concept maps should not continue indefinitely, as this quickly becomes confusing.

- Concept maps, on the surface, should be minimally complicated so that they can be easily ‘absorbed.’ However, Prezi (as well as most concept-mapping software) permit instructors or students to build concept maps that have multiple dimensions. In an ideal concept map, one can zoom out from an overview then zoom in to obtain greater detail.

- For more information on concept maps, see the Center for Teaching website at: [http://centeach.uiowa.edu/conceptmaps.shtml](http://centeach.uiowa.edu/conceptmaps.shtml).

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