Architects communicate visually, using drawings and graphics.
“Drawing is the language of architects….architects do not build – they draw” Anonymous

- Part of the thinking process of design
- Communication to client and users
- Specific instructions for constructing the building

THE SKETCH IS COMMUNICATION
- between ‘me’ and ‘I’
- between me and you
- between student and teacher
- between architect and client
• Graphic diagrams are visual abstractions that show concepts and/or objects.
• They are used in the initial stages of the design and exploration process.

Diagrams can vary from loose, freehand sketches......

....to precise, hard-line drawings.
Diagramming is part of the design process. Different concepts and ideas can be quickly investigated and communicated.

There are many types of diagrams. Many other professions (music, math, business, etc) use diagrams to explain and clarify their visual thinking.

Diagrams focus on general information. They encourage the designer to explore alternatives.
Two-dimensional diagrams can communicate not only organizational ideas, but also implications of form (what the building will look like).

Some aspects of a building that can be diagrammed are:

1. Program functions
2. Levels of privacy
3. Circulation
4. Site conditions and context
5. Spatial hierarchy and relationships
6. Geometric properties
7. Lighting conditions
8. Structure and enclosure
A Parti diagram shows a concept in its simplest form. It focuses on the key structural and relational features of an idea. The term PARTI refers to the concept or primary organizing idea of a design.

Lines and Arrows are important diagramming tools. Lines can be drawn to show symmetry, relationships, boundaries, etc. Different linetypes may indicate various concepts. Arrows show movement in one or more directions. Different size arrows may indicate their importance.
"The Hallmark of a diagram is its ability to simplify a complex notion into essential elements and relationships by a process of elimination and reduction."
ARCHITECTURAL SKETCHES CAN BE A BIT MESSY....
BUT ARE ALWAYS ACCURATE!
ASSIGNMENT #1: SPATIAL ANALYSIS

1. LOCATE OR CREATE A FLOOR PLAN OF YOUR SPACE – SCALE AS NECESSARY USING A PHOTOCOPIER OR CAD SOFTWARE. FLOOR PLAN SHOULD BE AN ARCHITECTURAL SCALE.

2. START WITH THE HAND DRAWING OF THE FLOORPLAN.

3. USE THE FLOORPLAN AS AN UNDERLAY FOR YOUR DIAGRAMS. DRAWING TEST DIAGRAMS ON TRACE PAPER OR VELLUM.

4. PREPARE FINAL PRESENTATION ON VELLUM SHEETS, TRACE THROUGH FINAL DRAWINGS, MOUNT ON FOAMCORE BOARDS.

(MAX. OF 2 - 17” X22” BOARDS)