**Module 3 Dropbox Assignment:
Research Topic Exploration**

The Research Topic Exploration Assignment will help you think about your previous and future academic classes and how the course topics connect across disciplines and outside the classroom.  You will also brainstorm two possible research problems for your PRST 4995 Culminating Project research paper.

Remember that Dropbox assignments should conform to the following requirements:

* Microsoft Word or compatible format
* One-inch margins
* One of the following 12-point fonts: Times New Roman, Arial, or Calibri
* Double-spaced text
* APA-formatted header, page numbers, and in-text citations for all outside sources

**Research Topic Investigation Assignment Requirements**

**1. APA Title Page**

Include your name, class name with section number, professor name, date, and assignment name.

Need to insert a page break to separate title page from the rest of the paper.

**Organize and Describe Previous Academic Coursework:**Keep section titles.

Step 2 Using your Registration History or Unofficial Transcript in PipelineMT, the Academic Map for your major, and/or the Upper Division Form you developed in consultation with your advisor, organize the coursework you have taken by academic discipline using only 2000-, 3000-, or 4000-level courses (consult Chapter 5 of the textbook for a taxonomy of disciplines). Create a heading for the two disciplines with the most coursework and describe each course, including the Course ID, Course Title, and summary of the knowledge and skills you gained from the course. Delete these instructions after you have read them. The bold titles are categories, select two categories, under the category select two disciplines that will be related to your research topic.

Example under **Humanities** category the discipline is English or History since all the courses relate to those disciplines. **Professions** category the discipline is Education since all the courses relate to that discipline. Next, answer the info stated in red for five courses under the categories you selected only.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Category **Professions,** Discipline **Education** | Category **Social Sciences,** Discipline **Business** |
| BLAW ELLD Legal Aspects/Bus-In this course, I learned explain and describe course. I can use the knowledge and skills acquired explain how you will use the info in the future. | PS 2020 State and Local Government-In this course, I learned explain and describe course. I can use the knowledge and skills acquired explain how you will use the info in the future. |
| HLTH ELLD Sci Foundation of Health- In this course, I learned explain and describe course. I can use the knowledge and skills acquired explain how you will use the info in the future. | ECON 2420 Principles of Microeconomics-In this course, I learned explain and describe course. I can use the knowledge and skills acquired explain how you will use the info in the future. |
| HLTH 3020 Terminology in HHP- In this course, I learned explain and describe course. I can use the knowledge and skills acquired explain how you will use the info in the future. | ATHC 4060 Sport Psychology-In this course, I learned explain and describe course. I can use the knowledge and skills acquired explain how you will use the info in the future. |
| HLTH 3300 First Aid and Safety Education- In this course, I learned explain and describe course. I can use the knowledge and skills acquired explain how you will use the info in the future. | ECON 2410 Principles of Macroeconomics-In this course, I learned explain and describe course. I can use the knowledge and skills acquired explain how you will use the info in the future. |
| ATHT 3580 Prevention and Care of Athletic Injuries- In this course, I learned explain and describe course. I can use the knowledge and skills acquired explain how you will use the info in the future. | BCED 2330 Word Processing Concepts-In this course, I learned explain and describe course. I can use the knowledge and skills acquired explain how you will use the info in the future. |
|  |  |
| **Humanities** | **Applied Fields** |
| ENGL ELUD Poetry and Poetics | CSCI ELLD Intro to C++ Programming |
| HIST 2020 Survey United States Hist II | ENGR ELLD A Hist-Modern Indust Dsgn |
| HIST 2010 Survey of United States History I | ELEC ELLD Great Power Relations |
|  | EMC ELLD Intro Lit, Media & Comm |
| **Natural Sciences** | EMC ELLD Intro to Media Studies |
| MATH ELLD Survey of Calculus | EMC ELUD Tech Communication |
| PGEO 1030 Physical Geography | EMC ELUD Science, Tech & Race |
|  | EMC ELUD Tech of Representation |
| **Fine & Performing Arts** | EMC ELUD Documentary Film |
| MUHL 4530 History of Jazz | COMM 2200 (EXL) Fundamentals of Communication |
|  | PRST 3995 Interdisciplinary Research and Problem Solving |
|  | PRST 4110 Internship for Professional Studies and Integrated Studies Majors |

(Bonds, 2021) In text citation for transcript source.

**Frame Your Two Primary Academic Disciplines** Keep section titles.

Step 3 Choose the two academic disciplines from Step 2 in which you have taken the most coursework. Using the information in Chapter 5, answer the following questions in your own words for each of the two disciplines (do not copy information directly from the textbook):

**Discipline 1** **Education**

1. To which category does the discipline belong? (Repko, Szostak, & Phillips-Buchberger, 2020, p. 123). Cite source from textbook or website.
2. What is the discipline's overall perspective? (Repko, Szostak, & Phillips-Buchberger, 2020, p. 131).
3. What phenomena does the discipline study? (Repko, Szostak, & Phillips-Buchberger, 2020, p. 136).
4. What are the discipline's assumptions? (Repko, Szostak, & Phillips-Buchberger, 2020, pp. 142-144).

**Discipline 2** **Business**

1. To which category does the discipline belong? (Repko, Szostak, & Phillips-Buchberger, 2020, p. 122). Cite source from textbook or website.
2. What is the discipline's overall perspective? (Repko, Szostak, & Phillips-Buchberger, 2020, p. 129). Cite source from textbook or website.
3. What phenomena does the discipline study? (Repko, Szostak, & Phillips-Buchberger, 2020, p. 134).
4. What are the discipline's assumptions? (Repko, Szostak, & Phillips-Buchberger, 2016, pp. 142-144).

**Brainstorm Potential Research Questions** Keep section titles.

Step 4 Think about the topics you have discussed in previous courses, current events, or issues of personal importance. You will develop one research question for the first discipline you covered in Step 4 above and another research question for the second discipline you covered. For each research question, you will answer each of the following questions:

**Discipline 1 Education**

Research Question 1

1. What research question related to your previous coursework would you like to research? Why is it important to answer this question? (Repko, Szostak, & Phillips-Buchberger, 2020, pp. 259-265).
2. Why do you believe this research question is complex? Use and cite information from Chapter 6 to support your answer. (Repko, Szostak, & Phillips-Buchberger, 2020, pp. 269-271).
3. Which of your previous academic disciplines is related to this research question and why? Look at coursework.
4. In addition to the academic discipline you described in question 2 above, what are two other academic disciplines that would be potentially relevant to this research question and why? Use and cite information from the descriptions of academic disciplines in Chapter 5 to support your answer.

**Discipline 2 Business**

Research Question 2

1. What research question related to your previous coursework would you like to research? Why is it important to answer this question? (Repko, Szostak, & Phillips-Buchberger, 2020, pp. 259-265).
2. Why do you believe this research question is complex? Use and cite information from Chapter 6 to support your answer. (Repko, Szostak, & Phillips-Buchberger, 2020, pp. 269-271).
3. Which of your previous academic disciplines is related to this research question and why? Look at coursework.
4. In addition to the academic discipline you described in question 2 above, what are two other academic disciplines that would be potentially relevant to this research question and why? Use and cite information from the descriptions of academic disciplines in Chapter 5 to support your answer.

**Reflection**

Step 5 In 1-2 paragraphs, reflect on what you have learned in Module 4.

* Which of the concepts in Chapter 5 and Chapter 6 challenged you the most?
* Which concept do you feel you understand best?
* Which of the research questions you brainstormed for this assignment do you think you would prefer to investigate and why?

Need to insert a page break to separate reference page from the rest of the paper.

**Reference Page**

Step 6 Provide an APA-formatted reference page for all sources cited in the assignment (including the textbook if used to paraphrase or quote responses to assignment questions).

Example

# References

Betzold, M. (2021). *Transcripts.* Murfreesboro: MTSU .

Repko, A., Szostak, R., & Phillips-Buchberger, M. (2016). *Introduction to interdisciplinary studies (2nd Ed).* Los Angeles: SAGE Publications.

# References

(n.d.).

Alberts, B. (2021). *Transcripts.* Murfreesboro: MTSU.

Repko, A., Szostak, R., & Phillips-Buchberger, M. (2020). *Introduction to interdisciplinary studies (3rd Ed).* Los Angeles: SAGE Publications.