

Lesson Plan Template

[Adam Cassell]
[MacMurray College]

[Rhetoric 132 final research paper, sophomore)

Topic: Synthesis through New Knowledge Creation

Objectives:

- Refine research question
- Identify resources
- New research map/plan of attack
- Begin to synthesize ideas

Materials:

- PC Lab, plan of attack flow chart worksheet

Activities:

(30-40 min)

- Individual activity
- Builds on primary vs secondary, critical web evaluation sessions already taught
- This activity uses SecDef Rumsfeld's 'Known Unknowns' paradigm that he used to describe the challenges of the Iraq war. Beginning with what you know, expanding to what you know that you **don't** know, progressing to the new information of what you **didn't** know that you **didn't** know, and ending with a synthesis of all 3 through the creation of new knowledge.
- Introduction to creating new knowledge- research question refining strategy, keyword building, define synthesis, examples, Rumsfeld flow chart, (5-10)
- Fill out the 'knowns' portion of worksheet (5-10)
- Search knowns (find 1 article) and key word build for known unknowns
- Use key words to build and search for unknown unknowns (2 or 3 articles)
- Scan the articles for similarities, differences, gaps, identify new areas to research, begin organizing ideas and themes (10-15)

Assessment:

- The Librarian monitors each student's progress, assisting where necessary.
- Completed flow chart worksheet.

ACRL Information Literacy Framework:

- Research as Inquiry
- Information Creation as a Process