Lesson Plan

Overview: In this assignment advanced undergraduate students read a completed paragraph and a list of conclusions from additional studies. The students choose which additional conclusion to include in the paragraph and why. This activity can be done in small groups or individually.

Goal: After completing this activity students will have practiced synthesizing information from different studies to build an argument

Materials: PowerPoint file (with notes for presenter) or word document handout – either or both can be used. There are multiple paragraphs/examples to choose from. Peruse the PowerPoint and handouts to choose which is most germane to your class.

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| Minutes | Activity  | Outcome |
| 0-1 | Present student with paragraph | Orient students to paragraph |
| 1-2 | Prompt students to identify the topic and conclusion of the paragraph | Practice identifying key components of synthetic writing |
| 2-3 | Present three additional conclusions | Orient students to additional conclusions |
| 3-4 | Ask student to identify which conclusion would enhance this paragraph and whyPotential prompts: -What is the topic of this paragraph? -What is the conclusion or point that the authors are trying to make?-Which sentence supports both connects to the topic sentence and supports the conclusion? | Practice connecting information to support synthetic conclusion |
| 4-5 | Briefly survey students and establish which sentence best connects to both the topic and conclusion of the paragraph (see answer in PowerPoint for clarification – answer differs based on paragraph chosen).  | Clarification of which sentence best supports the synthetic writing in the chosen paragraph. |