**Text Analysis**

**In an essay of 1,000-1,200 words (3-4 pages), introduce, analyze, and evaluate one source you have chosen for your Literature Review. This source should come from a peer-reviewed journal or other reputable publication that you identified in your Discipline Awareness Project. It should be an example of a common genre in your field used to present original research or an original argument.**

* Introductory paragraph. Your first sentence should include the title of the text, the author’s name(s) and credentials, and the thesis or hypothesis. The remainder of the first paragraph should be a brief summary of the text, followed by a statement about the significance of this text in the literature on your research topic.
* Body paragraphs. The body paragraphs should address the following questions: How is the article structured? What are they key parts of the text, and how are they related to the purpose of the article? If the article reports on original research, it should be clear where, how, and most importantly, why it was done. When you include borrowed material, introduce and cite it according to APA Style (or the documentation style you will use in your literature review.)
* Concluding paragraph. Acknowledging the contributions of this source to the scholarly or professional conversation on this topic, point out the limitations of this source. What ideas does it suggest for future research?
* Include a Reference (or Work Cited) entry. (No separate page necessary.)

**Planning**

When you’re reading your article for your Text Analysis (or any of your sources for the Literature Review), be aware of the questions the researchers asked and how they went about answering them. Be aware of how their questions differ from those of other researchers in the field (including you), at least in the scope of the research. If the article contains a study, what makes it different from other studies? What makes it particularly valuable?

**Analysis/Organization**

Break the article down into smaller parts (if there are subheadings, this is relatively simple), and organize the body of your paper accordingly, but focus on the parts that are most relevant to the topic of your literature review. A reader interested in your research topic should know which parts of the article are most useful.

**Summarizing vs. Quoting/citing**

You can summarize many things: the purpose of the research, the methods, the findings, and the researchers’ conclusions. However, you should directly quote specific evidence the researchers use to support their conclusions, especially when their interpretation is new, or when the language is particularly expressive. Instead of quoting full sentences or paragraphs, try to integrate language from the source into the structure of your own sentence. For more discussion of summarizing vs. paraphrasing vs. quoting (and examples of each), see the link posted on Blackboard under Course Content.