Interdisciplinary Mapping Exercise

A sample question/issue: AIDS Denialism in South Africa
Interdisciplinary Mapping Exercise

Step 1. Start with a blank sheet of paper. Write the topic in the middle of the page.

HIV/AIDS
denialism
South Africa
Interdisciplinary Mapping Exercise

Step 2. Brainstorm questions, issues, anything that comes to mind regarding the topic. Do not censor yourself!!

- What Mbeki’s rhetoric behind the denialism?
- What are the stats on AIDS during Apartheid?
- Apartheid & AIDS—connections?
- What happened after Mbeki’s presidency?
- What were the stats on AIDS after Apartheid?
- What is the basis in research?
- What are Peter Duesberg’s credentials?
- When did the denialism start?
- Who started the denials?
- What were the government’s policies?
- Who made the policies, and how?
- What happened after Mbeki’s presidency?
- How could this happen with modern science?
- What does this say about the influence of modern science?
- Stats before, during and after Mbeki
- What does this say about the influence of modern science?
- Has this kind of science/denialism happened before? Galileo? Climate Change?
- What were popular sentiments?
- What was the medical infrastructure like?
Interdisciplinary Mapping Exercise

Step 3. Who are the experts who would be asking these same questions?

**Scientists**
- Medical researchers
- Policy makers

**Historians**
- Political
- Analysts

**Philosophers**
- What was the basis in research?
- How could this happen with modern science?
- What was the medical infrastructure like?

**Statisticians**
- Data analysts

**Has this kind of science/denialism happened before/since?**
- Galileo? Climate Change?

**What Mbeki’s rhetoric behind the denialism?**

**What were the government’s policies?**

**Apartheid & AIDS—connections?**

**What happened after Mbeki’s presidency?**

**Who made the policies, and how?**

**Stats on AIDS during Apartheid?**

**Stats on AIDS after Apartheid?**

**What are the stats before, during and after Mbeki?**

**What were popular sentiments/public opinion?**

**What are Peter Duesberg’s credentials?**

**Who started the denials?**

**What does this say about the influence of modern science?**

**What Mbeki’s rhetoric behind the denialism?**

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**Interdisciplinary**

**Artists**

**Writers**

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**International Government Agencies**
- Medical administrators
- Charities
- Foundations
Interdisciplinary Mapping Exercise

Step 4. What academic disciplines do these experts represent?

**PHILOSOPHY**
- Scientists
- Medical researchers
- Policy makers
- How could this happen with modern science?
- When did the denialism start?
- Who started the denials?

**HISTORY**
- Historians
- What happened after Mbeki’s presidency?
- Who made the policies, and how?

**POLITICAL SCIENCE**
- Political Scientists
- International Government Agencies
- What were the government’s policies?
- What was the medical infrastructure like?

**GLOBAL HEALTH**
- Statisticians
- Data analysts
- Stats on AIDS during and after Apartheid
- What does this say about the influence of modern science?
- Stats before, during and after Mbeki

**AFRICAN STUDIES**
- Apartheid & AIDS—connections?
- What happened after Mbeki’s presidency?
- Has this kind of science/denialism happened before/since? Galileo? Climate Change?

**PUBLIC POLICY**
- Journalists
- Artists
- Writers
- Documentarians
- What were popular sentiments?

**HIV/AIDS denialism South Africa**
- What Mbeki’s rhetoric behind the denialism?
- What are Peter Duesberg’s credentials?
- Stats on AIDS during Apartheid
- Apartheid & AIDS—connections?
- What were the popular sentiments?