

Interdisciplinary Mapping Exercise

A sample question/issue: **AIDS Denialism in South Africa**

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SOCIOLOGY OF HEALTH & ILLNESS

Defending the boundaries of science: AIDS denialism, peer review and the *Medical Hypotheses* saga



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Issue

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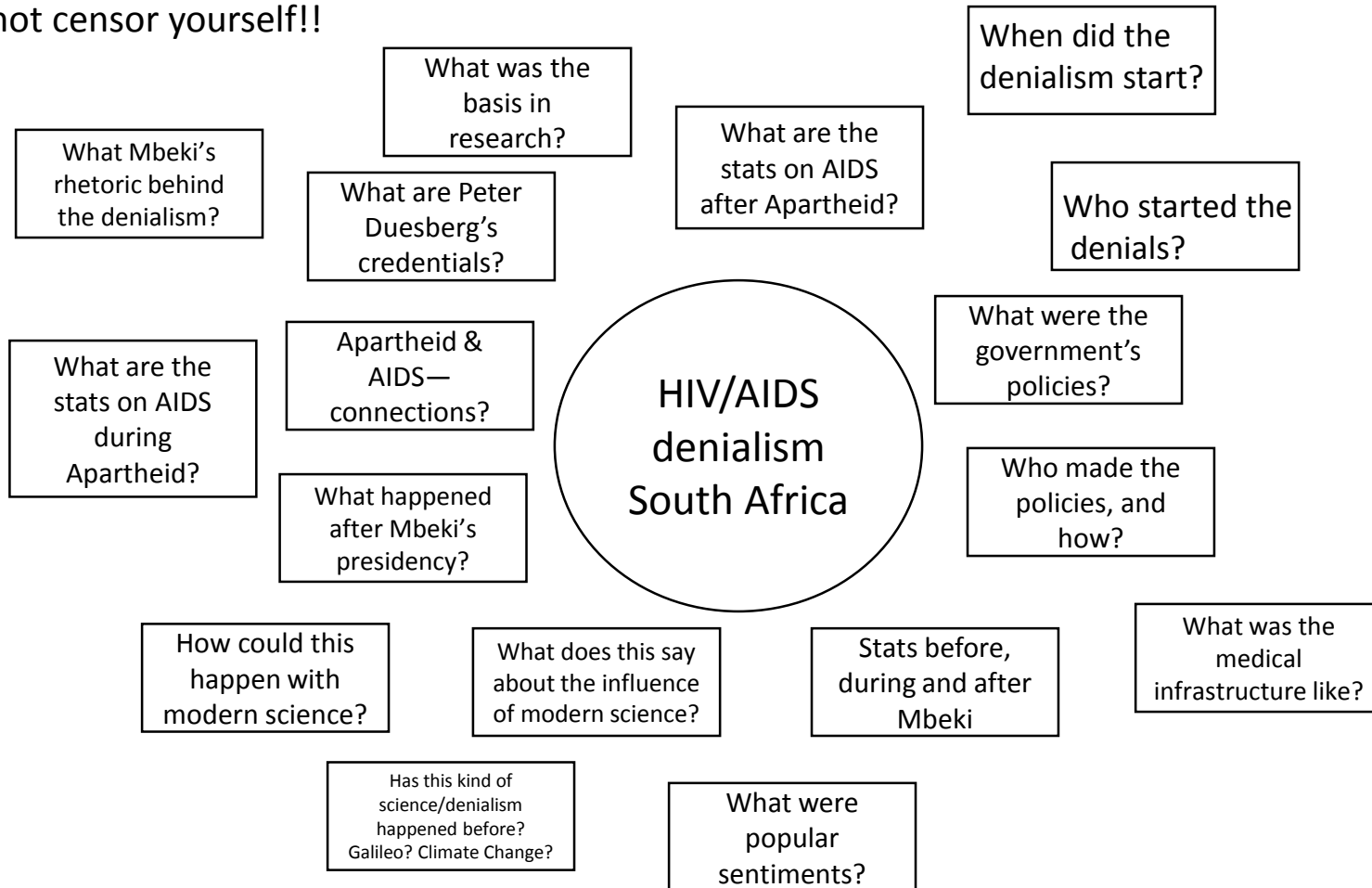
Interdisciplinary Mapping Exercise

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



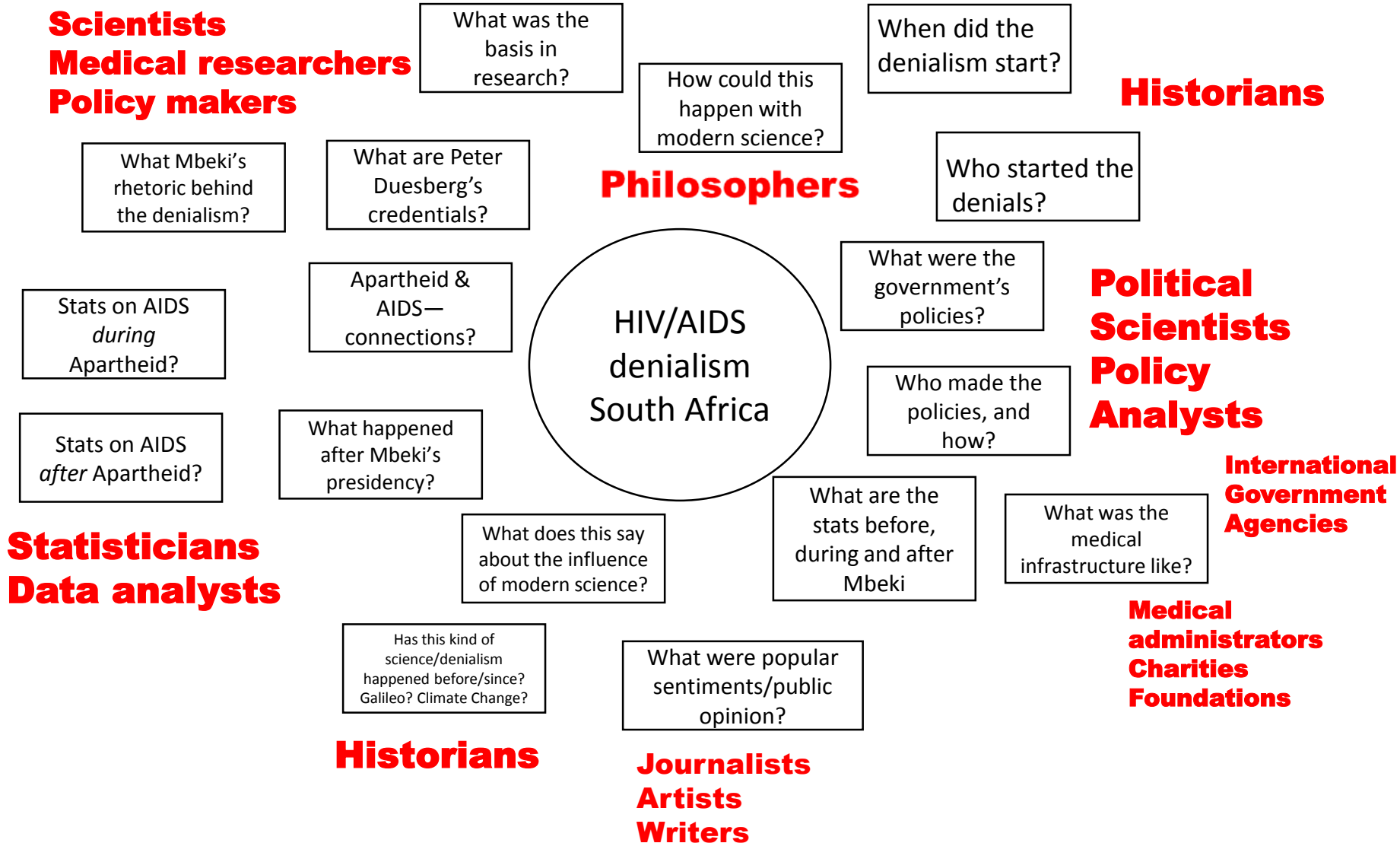
Interdisciplinary Mapping Exercise

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



Interdisciplinary Mapping Exercise

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



Interdisciplinary Mapping Exercise

PHILOSOPHY

HISTORY

Step 4. What academic disciplines do these experts represent?

Scientists
Medical researchers
Policy makers

Philosophers

Historians

**GLOBAL
HEALTH**

**POLITICAL
SCIENCE**

Statisticians
Data analysts

**Political
Scientists**
**International
Government
Agencies**

**AFRICAN
STUDIES**

Historians

Journalists

Artists

Writers

Documentarians

**PUBLIC
POLICY**

**Medical
administrators,
Charities,
Foundations**



When did the denialism start?

Who started the denials?

How could this happen with modern science?

What were the government's policies?

What are Peter Duesberg's credentials?

What Mbeki's rhetoric behind the denialism?

Stats on AIDS during Apartheid

Who made the policies, and how?

Apartheid & AIDS—connections?

Stats on AIDS after Apartheid

What was the medical infrastructure like?

What does this say about the influence of modern science?

Stats before, during and after Mbeki

What happened after Mbeki's presidency?

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

What were popular sentiments?