

GROUP PROJECT EXERCISE ONE

Your Own Area of Expertise of an Example of “Disciplinary Knowledge”

Adapted from the Website:
“Designing Interdisciplinary Writing Assignments; Workshop #2 for
University of Maryland, Baltimore County Faculty”

<http://64.233.167.104/search?q=cache:6WHeA4cMfqIJ:www.umbc.edu/inds/events/WID/AssigningIDWriting.ppt+disciplinary+genres+exercise&hl=en&ct=clnk&cd=3&gl=us&client=firefox-a>

(from June 6, 2005)

Each member of your group will take roughly thirty minutes to an hour (or as much time as needed) to free-write, in an open-form structure, about a “discipline” (this can be a sport, an art form, a medium of technology or entertainment, etc.) in which the group member is an “expert.” In your free-writing, make sure you consider all of the following topics. It would be advisable to divide your “answers” to the below questions into paragraphs, and to start the free-writing with an introductory paragraph.

Think broadly about these questions. Otherwise, feel free to describe the discipline as thoroughly as you can. You are also welcome to describe personal experiences, triumphs, or struggles associated with this discipline.

1. What is the discipline’s purpose?
2. What are its founding assumptions? [i.e. what do you need to know *first* before you engage in this activity?]
3. What types of expression are often used in this discipline?
4. Based on what criteria is one judged “an expert,” or at least “skilled,” in this discipline?
5. What kinds of writing happen in – or about – this discipline?