

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Synthesizing Topics

*While preparing to write an annotated bibliography, literature review, or research paper, you will accumulate multiple sources.*

*Synthesizing or the act of combining information into logical categories will help you identify relationships among your sources.*

*A synthesis matrix is a table that can be used to organize research, providing a visual representation and overlap of ideas found in literature.*

*Give it a try!*

#### How to use a Synthesis Matrix:

- Write source citations vertically in the far left column.
- Write topic categories along the top row (horizontally)
- As you read through your sources, make notes in the appropriate spaces. Include main ideas, interesting facts, and quotes.
- Review the table to recognize matching, similar or overlapping concepts, dissonance of ideas, and gaps in knowledge, within your sources.

	Topic	Topic	Topic
Citations			

**Use the back of this sheet to start synthesizing your sources. Good luck!**

#### √Check your learning!

At the end of this you should be able to:

- Identify and organize related concepts within your source material
- Duplicate this process for future research projects
