

INDS 330 FINAL EXAM (Take Home, 8-10 pp.) DUE MONDAY, DEC 17TH by 4pm:

Please turn in a printed copy, double spaced, page numbered, with your name, course and “Final Exam” labeled at the top.

Choose any complex problem or topic, either from the class readings or another topic in which you are interested, and apply all nine of Repko’s “Steps in the Interdisciplinary Process” (see below) to the topic. Add the tenth step (“Assess the effectiveness of the integration”) as well.

Some suggestions:

- Be specific in terms of citing the readings and include new references in your literature review.
- Organize the paper clearly by each step.
- Discuss if your analysis uses one of the models of integration in **Repko** (see below).
- In conclusion, apply one or more of the bridging techniques from the **Miller&Boix Mansilla** article and explain how this bridging technique helps us to understand the issue or to come up with solutions to a complex problem.
- Overall, look for PATTERNS in the data, either frameworks that authors describe (“12 Poverty Traps”, for example) or patterns that you see.

Steps in the integration process

1. Define the problem, issue, topic, or question
2. Present a clear rationale for taking an interdisciplinary approach
3. Identify relevant disciplines and resources
4. Conduct a literature review
5. Develop a command of each relevant discipline
6. Study the problem and generate insights
7. Identify conflicts between disciplinary insights
8. Create common ground
9. Combine disciplinary insights to construct a new understanding

Models of Integration

1. Overarching conceptual framework
 - Example: “Poverty Traps” as concept (Smith); justice; genocide
2. Comprehensive perspective
 - Examples: IPCC studies of climate change; Poverty traps
3. Interpenetration
 - “... the redefinition of disciplines”
 - Examples: clinical economics (Sachs), economic philosophy (Singer)

Good luck and Happy Holidays to you.
Professor McAlpine