**Activity 10: Visualizing the Scholarly Conversation**

**Purpose of this assignment:** The goal of this activity is to help you come to better understand the concept of the scholarly conversation by creating a visual representation of (a small part) of the scholarly conversation on a specific topic or research question.

**How does it fit within the entire project?** This activity will help you approach the research process including your literature review as well as the discussion of your findings byencouraging you to suspend judgement on a particular piece of scholarship until the larger context for the scholarly conversation is better understood, recognize that a given work may not represent the only or even the majority perspective on a topic, understand the context for the scholarly conversation on your topic of research, the important actors of this conversation, and what each element of the conversation has contributed.

**Tasks required:** Complete the activity below.

**Deliverable:** Completed version of this handout uploaded to [LMS] by [deadline] (one per person).

**Estimated time:** [to determine based on the depth of the reflection, the number of source provided to the students, etc.]

**Group work or individual work?** Individual work [can be also used for group work].

**Notes to instructor:**

* This activity was developed by [Jane Hammons](https://library.osu.edu/people/hammons.73).
* Provide students with a focused research question relevant to the CURE. You can also work with a student-generated question.
* Provide students with several articles or scholarly works on the topic. Depending on how much time you want students to take on the activity, you may want to provide them with summaries of the source. Be sure to include the citation information for each source, as well as the reference list.
* This activity can be undertaken on paper or in a graphics software like Microsoft Paint. One can also use VUE (<https://vue.tufts.edu/>) or Google Jamboard (<https://jamboard.google.com/>) to create concept maps that can easily be edited. Directions for the download, installation, and use of the software program should be added to the step-by-step guide below.

**Step-by-step:**

1. Create a visual representation that demonstrates the connections between the sources and the contribution that each has made to the conversation on the topic. You may wish to follow the model of a concept map ([examples](https://sciences.ucf.edu/biology/d4lab/biogeography/history-biogeography-concept-maps/)).
2. Consider the following questions:
   * Does it appear that the sources can be grouped or divided in any way? For example, are there any sources that provide a similar perspective on the topic, or come to similar conclusions?
   * Are there any sources that provide a perspective or conclusion that is radically different from the others?
   * Are there other similarities between the sources in terms of research methods?
   * Are there any of the sources that appear to have influenced the other sources? For example, are there sources that are cited by the majority of the other sources?
   * Are there sources that appear disconnected from the conversation? Are not cited by any of the other authors?
   * Write a summary of the conversation based on the sources provided.