



INTERDISCIPLINARY LESSON PLAN

Standards

§110.39. English Language Arts and Reading, English IV, Adopted 2017.

Current Event

Students will focus on identifying and analyzing the effects and impact of the coronavirus outbreak in rural communities. Rural areas have been hit especially hard by the pandemic in many ways due to a variety of reasons.

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/10/22/us/covid-rural-us.html>

Content Disciplines

English IV and **Statistics** (111.47) are the content areas for this assignment. I picked English because journalists, public relations professionals, health organizations, researchers, and other companies all have to communicate about the coronavirus to the public clearly and concisely. I chose Statistics because when communicating about a scientific or health-related issue, it is important to include and present credible and relevant statistics to support claims.

Learning Objective

Students will locate and implement statistics from credible sources in order to describe the impact of the coronavirus on rural communities and formulate solutions in an informational article. Students will pick which angle they wish to approach the issue (for example, healthcare access, racial issues, social or socioeconomic issues)



STATISTICS OBJECTIVES

Statistics Objective 1: Students will locate and include statistical data from at least 3 credible sources in their paper.

(c) Knowledge and skills.

(1) *Mathematical process standards.* The student uses mathematical processes to acquire and demonstrate mathematical understanding. The student is expected to:

- (A) *apply mathematics to problems arising in everyday life, society, and the workplace;*
- (B) *use a problem-solving model that incorporates analyzing given information, formulating a plan or strategy, determining a solution, justifying the solution, and evaluating the problem-solving process and the reasonableness of the solution;*
- (C) *select tools, including real objects, manipulatives, paper and pencil, and technology as appropriate, and techniques, including mental math, estimation, and number sense as appropriate, to solve problems;*

Statistics Objective 2: Students will connect the statistical data to real-world implications and justify why the data supports their claims and suggestions for improving coronavirus outcomes in rural communities.

(c) Knowledge and skills.

- (F) *analyze mathematical relationships to connect and communicate mathematical ideas; and*
- (G) *display, explain, or justify mathematical ideas and arguments using precise mathematical language in written or oral communication.*

Statistics Objective 3: Students will create meaningful and appropriate representations of the statistical data to include along with their text.

- (D) *communicate mathematical ideas, reasoning, and their implications using multiple representations, including symbols, diagrams, graphs, and language as appropriate;*
- (E) *create and use representations to organize, record, and communicate mathematical ideas;*



ENGLISH IV OBJECTIVES

English Objective 1: Students will formulate questions on their topic to facilitate their research process. Then, students will develop a thesis statement / main topic on which they will focus their papers.

(11) Inquiry and research: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts. The student engages in both short-term and sustained recursive inquiry processes for a variety of purposes. The student is expected to:

- (A) develop questions for formal and informal inquiry;*
- (B) critique the research process at each step to implement changes as needs occur and are identified;*
- (C) develop and revise a plan;*

English Objective 2: Students will locate and synthesize information from at least 5 credible, relevant sources and implement in-text citations and correctly paraphrase and cite information. Annotated sources will be submitted and approved before use in the paper.

(11) Inquiry and research: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts. The student engages in both short-term and sustained recursive inquiry processes for a variety of purposes. The student is expected to:

- (E) locate relevant sources;*
- (F) synthesize information from a variety of sources;*
- (G) examine sources for:*
 - (i) credibility, bias, and accuracy; and*
 - (ii) faulty reasoning such as straw man, false dilemma, faulty analogies, and nonsequitur;*
- (H) display academic citations, including for paraphrased and quoted text, and use source materials ethically to avoid plagiarism; and*
- (I) use an appropriate mode of delivery, whether written, oral, or multimodal, to present results*



ENGLISH IV OBJECTIVES

English Objective 3: Students will compose an APA format 3-5 page paper that analyzes the impact of coronavirus on rural communities and proposes their suggestions for improving this outlook. Students will develop a thesis statement, outline, and drafts before submitting their final paper. They will identify their audience and write appropriately for that audience.

(9) Composition: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts--writing process. The student uses the writing process recursively to compose multiple texts that are legible and use appropriate conventions. The student is expected to:

- (A) plan a piece of writing appropriate for various purposes and audiences by generating ideas through a range of strategies such as brainstorming, journaling, reading, or discussing;*
- (B) develop drafts into a focused, structured, and coherent piece of writing in timed and open-ended situations by:*
 - (i) using strategic organizational structures appropriate to purpose, audience, topic, and context; and*
 - (ii) developing an engaging idea reflecting depth of thought with effective use of rhetorical devices, details, examples, and commentary;*
- (C) revise drafts to improve clarity, development, organization, style, diction, and sentence fluency, both within and between sentences;*
- (D) edit drafts to demonstrate a command of standard English conventions using a style guide as appropriate; and*
- (E) publish written work for appropriate audiences.*



INTERDISCIPLINARY LESSON PLAN

Warmup

Students will get together in groups and brainstorm how they think rural areas versus city areas have been impacted by the coronavirus and how different types of areas have responded to the crisis. They will also brainstorm what sort of data might be useful in identifying factors of coronavirus impact. Additionally, students will discuss what they believe to be the biggest factor in the impact of the virus in rural communities.

Instructional Strategies

Students will initially work in groups to brainstorm ideas on factors that might cause the coronavirus to have a worse impact on rural areas. They may draw ideas from their own experiences or news that they have heard, and they will write down what ideas they are interested in and want to explore further. They will also consider credible sources where they might find statistical data. I will write down students' ideas on the whiteboard and discuss them. Students will leave class with their own questions and ideas to help them get started on the research process.

Materials

The materials required for this assignment are Statistics textbooks and computers. Additionally, I would provide a list of starting points for obtaining data (RHI Hub, CDC, etc.).

Assessments

Closing/Formative Assessment - Students will complete an exit slip that briefly expresses their thoughts and ideas that they brainstormed in class and what their next step will be for the assignment. They will also make note of any questions or confusion they may have with the assignment.

Summative Assessment - Students will create and present their findings to the class through a brief slideshow presentation in addition to the submission of their papers. The presentations will highlight their thesis/main idea, an overview of their data (including where it was obtained and the real-world connection of that data to rural communities), and their suggestions for improvement.