



LITERATURE REVIEW WHY & HOW

PURPOSE OF THE LITERATURE REVIEW

- To summarize, evaluate and compare articles or studies that are relevant and important to your topic
- Highlight key findings
- Identify inconsistencies, gaps and contradictions in the literature
- Provide an analysis of other researchers' methodologies and approaches
- Provide clues about the direction of future research or recommend areas to focus on
- Ensure that you are not duplicating work that has already been done



INTRODUCTION

Aims: Explain the purpose and establish the importance of the topic

The introduction should provide the framework, selection criteria, or parameters of your literature review, establish the context or background, give a brief overview of the type of work done on the topic, briefly identify any controversy within the field or recent research that has raised questions about previous assumptions.

These findings should help state the purpose of the research presented.



BODY

Aims: To summarize and assess the current state of knowledge in the field

To note the major themes or topics, the most important trends, and the findings on which researchers agree or disagree.

Often divided by headings/subheadings to make an argument that will justify the proposed research. Therefore, the literature review will only address research that leads directly to your own project.

Focus on analysis rather than simply describing the documents cited.



Aims: Summarize the evidence presented and show its importance

Rather than restate your thesis or statement of intent, explain what your review tells you about the current state of the field.

The conclusion of your literature review should highlight gaps and indicate how the previous findings lead to your own research project and chosen methodology.



CITE SOURCES

(ACCORDING TO APA NORM)

Direct borrowing:
verbatim (word for word) in
quotation marks
reproduction of documents
(photos, tables, videos, etc.)

Indirect borrowing:
reformulation of an idea or
a text (paraphrase)
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