The “literature” you choose will inform everything you write, so plan searches carefully.

Nita Bryant
Revised 9/17/2018
READ WITH A PURPOSE

**Summarize each article**

section by section:

- Research question/rationale
- Theoretical framework

- Methods, sample, context, variables
- Major findings, conclusions

- Limitations
- Gaps, need for more research

- What this study contributes; implications for future research, policy, practice, *your* study
- Themes, issues addressed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Citation</th>
<th>Study rationale: research question(s)</th>
<th>Methods: Variables Sample Context</th>
<th>Theoretical foundation</th>
<th>Major Findings</th>
<th>Conclusions</th>
<th>Study Limitations. Note any with implications for <em>your</em> research</th>
<th>Gaps in the literature: Note gaps <em>you</em> are filling - or gaps that remain</th>
<th>Implications of study for <em>your</em> research – and for research or policy in general</th>
<th>What themes or notable issues emerge in this study?</th>
<th>As you read more, begin noting how a study is linked to other studies reviewed.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

"**Summarize** each study across the row"
Synthesize the ‘body of literature’

How do these studies fit together?

Analyze similarities, differences, themes, notable issues that emerge.

Taken as a whole, what are the important findings? Implications?

Based on evidence you gathered, what would you suggest for future research or policy or practice?

What new questions should be posed?

What new directions might be promising?

How do these studies fit with your research?
The Review

Organize the literature as it relates to other literature (similarities; differences, etc.)

Organize the “body of literature” as it relates to you

Your research question

Mixed methods study

New theoretical perspective

Survey research

Ethnographic study

Descriptive study

Seminal study

Recent statistics

Grey literature report

Quantitative study

Survey research

Longitudinal study

Experimental study

Survey research

Different methodological approaches

Introduction, rationale, importance of study

Widely used theories; application to research

Promising new theory applied to research

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