Methods

Fall 2019

Professor Grace Young

**How To: The Literature Review & Rubric (see page 3)**

Literature Review Due Tuesday, October 8th

The Literature Review should answer the following questions:

1. What have others said about this topic?
2. What theories address it and what do they say?
3. What research has been done previously?
4. Are there consistent findings, or do past studies disagree?
5. Are there flaws in the body of existing research that you feel you can remedy?
6. How will your research draw on (or draw off of, or relate to) the existing research that you are citing?

As you begin reading the articles, think about whether and how they address your interest. Then re-answer the five questions above. Your direction for your project may change slightly as you “get into the literature.”

You must cite at least five sources. Each of the five sources should directly touch upon your research and you should directly write about how your research will address the literature you cite. Here are some ways to do it:

**Hints for Writing the Literature Review:**

When writing your Literature Review, try to use an academic language style.

Here’s are two examples of what you **DON’T** want to do:

1. Carlos Dominquez, in his article, The Effects of Usage on Marijuana Attitudes says that …
2. The Effects of Usage on Marijuana Attitudes: This article talks about …

Instead, try these types of four approaches:

* 1. Smith (2010) argues that …
  2. Martinez (2011) takes issue with Smith’s conclusions …
  3. Research shows that …………………………………… (Smith 2010, Jones 2004).
  4. Recent research demonstrates ………………….......... (Martinez 2002, Mondragon 2006)

In order to make clear how your research project is related to the literature you find, you should clearly explain to the reader the relationship(s). Here are some examples:

1. Based on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_’s research (2005), I expect to find that respondents of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ survey will hold similar views about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_’s research (2000) suggests that respondents of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ survey will \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and I intend to test whether these relationships hold true among these respondents.
3. Following \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_‘s research (2010), I intend to investigate whether similar attitudes can be found among the respondents of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ survey.
4. I intend to further \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_’s research (2009) by investigating this relationship with more current data from the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ survey.

The Literature Review of your paper should cite at least five bibliographic sources. They should relate directly to your research question, and they should be cited properly in the body of your paper and at the end in a **Bibliography** section.

REMEMBER: You are looking for articles in REFEREED journals only. This means that someone sends in a research paper that is then submitted to a committee of sociologists who reviews it and decides whether it is sociologically significant and sociologically sound. If it is, then it is published. Or, it may go through a series of revisions and then be published. Many submitted research papers, if not most, are rejected. This process helps to ensure that the research that is published is good.

**FINALLY, don’t forget the transitional sentences between sections of your research project. At the end of the Introduction, you should have:**

The next section of this report outlines the literature. Following the Literature Review, the Methods section details the methodology of our/my research. I then report my findings and conclude my aper with directions for future research.

At the end of the Literature Review, you should have a stand-alone sentence-paragraph that reads:

The next section outlines the methods of my research project.

At the end of the Methods section, you should have a stand-alone sentence-paragraph that reads:

The next section details my findings.

At the end of the Findings section, you should have a stand-alone sentence-paragraph that reads:

The next section concludes my paper.

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## Rubric: Literature Review & Bibliography (30 points)

## Tuesday, October 8th, 2019

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Points \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Literature Review (**2 points each)

\_\_\_\_\_ Literature Review is clear and concise

\_\_\_\_\_ Provided at least 5 cites of studies

\_\_\_\_\_ Used academic research that is directly related to your project

\_\_\_\_\_ Explained the studies clearly

\_\_\_\_\_ Provided accurate citations of your studies

\_\_\_\_\_ Integrated the studies without listing their names at the top of the pages or sections

\_\_\_\_\_ Organized your Literature Review in a way that makes sense: the flow of the articles makes sense, and there are no abrupt transitions between paragraphs

\_\_\_\_\_ Explained how the studies relate to or inform your research question: Please use sentences like: “Based on \_\_\_\_’s research, I expect to find that …..” or “Following on \_\_\_’s study, I will explore ….”

\_\_\_\_\_ Titled the section that begins your Lit Review with “Literature Review” and included this transitional sentence: The next section outlines the methods of my research project.

\_\_\_\_\_ Used an academic style; do not relate your personal experiences about doing the lit review or use “I”; for example DON’T WRITE: “it was hard for me to find articles” or “I found it was interesting to review the literature”

\_\_\_\_\_ Provide a well-written document with full sentences and without spelling and grammar errors

**Bibliography (**1 point each)

\_\_\_\_\_ Does your bibliography start on a separate piece of paper with a title of Bibliography or References?

\_\_\_\_\_ Is your bibliography in alphabetical order?

\_\_\_\_\_ Your bibliography should only contain those entries that you cite in the body of your paper. Does it?

\_\_\_\_\_ Is the date of publication in the right place?

\_\_\_\_\_ Have you correctly italicized or placed in quotes the titles of books and articles?

\_\_\_\_\_ Did you follow the other important guidelines for citation and references as outlined in *A Sociology Student Writer’s Manual or* by following ASU’s library website and guides http://www.adams.edu/library/guides\_style.php and click on: ASA: American Sociological Association ASA style guide (pdf)

\_\_\_\_\_ Submitted on time (2 points)

Comments: