Writing the Literature Review

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In-Text Citations
Paper Components

- Introduction
- Literature Review
- Conclusion
- Bibliography
- Appendix Page
- A copy of the 1st page of each Journal Article
Appendix
Introduction

- Introduces your topic
- Tells the reader why the topic is important
- Tells the reader what aspects of the topic will be discussed in the paper
What is a Literature Review?

- The part of the paper that discusses research that has been conducted about a specific topic area

- A survey of scholarly work (journal articles, books, etc.) relevant to a particular topic area that provides a description, summary, and critical evaluation of that scholarly work

- An overview of the significant body of literature of a given topic area

Source: UC Santa Cruz University Library – Write a Literature Review
Writing the Literature Review

- Discuss the findings and conclusions of the researchers from your peer reviewed journal articles

- Summarize and synthesize the arguments and ideas of the researchers

- Compare and contrast the researchers’ ideas on the topic
Example

Questions that can be addressed in the literature review:

Topic – Malaria

- How does one get Malaria? How is it transmitted?
- How does Malaria affect the individual? What are the symptoms of the disease?
- How does the disease impact the family and or community?
Example

- How can the disease be prevented? Are there different ideas about how the disease can be prevented?

- How can the disease be treated? Are there different ideas about how the disease can be treated?

- What efforts are already in place to address the disease?

- What recommendations are the researchers making to combat the disease? Are researchers making different recommendations?
David and Smith (2011) suggest that malaria can easily be prevented by providing nets for all families in the more rural areas of Africa. These researchers estimate that the number of people contracting the disease could be cut in half by 2015 if nets are provided (David & Smith, 2011). However, Niven et al. (2009) disagree with David and Smith (2011) and suggest that a community education program be developed to educate the people of the rural areas about the necessity of practicing good hygiene and thereby limiting the spread of the disease.
When referencing the author’s ideas in your paper, cite in APA style as follows:

- David and Smith (2004) suggest that malaria can be reduced by....
  Or
- Malaria nets can reduce the rate of infection by 30% (David & Smith, 2004).

Note: the citation is always listed before the period.
When using a direct quote from an article, list the authors, date of publication, and page number as follows:

- According to David and Smith (2009) “supplying netting will reduce the incidence of malaria by 30%” (p. 15).

  Or

- “Supplying netting will reduce the incidence of malaria by 30%” (David & Smith, 2009, p. 15).
Citing works by 3 to 5 authors

- The first time you cite the source in your paper list all the authors, example
  - Randle, Jeffries, Williams, and Jones (2004)
    or
  - (Randle, Jeffries, Williams, & Jones, 2004)

- After the first time you cite these authors, you can abbreviate the citation as follows:
  - Randle et al. (2004)
    or
  - (Randle et al., 2004)
Citing works by 6 or more authors

- When citing work by 6 or more authors, abbreviate the first time and all subsequent times you cite the work in your paper:
  - Randle et al. (2004)
  - (Randle et al., 2004)

Source: OWL at Purdue, APA In-Text Citation
Grouping authors

When you want to reference two or more works that are similar, you can group them into one citation.

Place the authors in the way they appear in the bibliography separated by a semi-colon, example:

Several researchers agree that using nets to combat malaria would significantly reduce the incidence of the disease (Bishop et al., 2011; David & Smith, 2004; Randle, Jeffries, Williams, & Jones, 2009).
Use this website for looking up how to write the bibliography, in-text citations, and all things APA:

Online Writing Lab at Purdue University

http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/
What not to do…

- Do not discuss each article separately by paragraph (like the annotated bib)

- Do not reference the title of the articles in your paper, reference the authors of the articles

- Do not discuss your opinion in the literature review section, save your comments for the conclusion
Conclusion

- State your opinion about the topic; support your ideas with the research (optional component)

- Discuss the global implications of your topic

- How does the topic relate to your life in the US?

- Relate your topic to the concepts of nature/nurture
Question???