Functions of literature review

- Understand the study concepts, definition, meaning - Conceptual Definition & Operational Definition
- Identify study gaps – Research Problem
- Provide theoretical background of study
  - Theory – an interrelated concepts, definitions and proposition that gives a systematic view of specifying relations among the variables to explain and predict a phenomena.
- To review past research in the area of study.
  - Helps to establish links between your study proposal and what has been studied
- Show how your finding have contributed to the existing body of knowledge
Specific function of literature review in your study

- Bring clarity and focus to research problem
- Improve your research methodology
  - Sampling technique
  - Data collection strategies
  - Identify valid Instrument/questionnaire
  - Use appropriate data analysis techniques
- Broaden your knowledge base in your research area
- Contextualize your finding –
  - how your finding fit to the existing body of knowledge
  - Your study contribution to the field/practice

5 steps in conducting Literature Review

- Step 1 - Identify key terms
  - Write a working title (this can be revised)
    - Select your key-words
    - Pose general research question
    - Use words reported by authors in the literature
- Step 2 - Locate the literature (50 research reports – Creswell 2003)
  - Use both Primary & Secondary sources
    - Primary sources (Empirical) – literatures reported by individual who actually conduct the research
    - Secondary sources (Review papers) – literature that summarizes primary source. Ex: A Meta-Analysis study
  - Different types of literatures: Journals, books, newspaper, proceedings, encyclopedia, dictionary
  - Online database: Ebscohost, Sage, ScienceDirect, Proquest, Springerlink, Emerald, ebooks, Sage, Wiley
Step 3 - Critically evaluate & select the literature
- Is it good, accurate source? Refereed journals, non-refereed journals, books.

Step 4 - Organize the literature
- Xerox, Download, Filing
- Take note, abstracting studies
- Literature Map

Priority for Resources in the Literature
- Journal articles – easiest to locate, more recent findings & reviews
- Books
- Conference proceedings
Use of Literature in Thesis/Dissertation

- Chapter 1 – introduction
  - Study background
  - Research problem
  - Study significance
  - Definition of terms

- Chapter 2 – Literature Review (see suggested model by Creswell 2003)

- Chapter 3 – Methodology
  - Sampling technique – justifying your technique, sample size chosen
  - Instrument development
  - Data collection strategy

- Chapter 4 – Result
  - No literature review

- Chapter 5 – Discussion and conclusion
  - Discuss/Explain how your finding compared to theory/past research
  - Discuss the contribution of your study to the body of knowledge in your area

A Model for Writing the Literature Review (Creswell 2003)

- Introduction
- Topic 1 – review about the independent variable
  - Concepts, definitions
  - Importance of studying this variable
  - operational definitions

- Topic 2 – review about the dependent variable
  - Concepts, definitions
  - Importance of studying this variable
  - operational definitions

- Topic 3 – Review the relationship between the independent variable and dependent variable
  - Theory explaining the relationship between the IV and DV
  - Past research examining the relationship between the IV and DV
    - Highlight the most important studies
    - Limitation of these studies that your study will address
Use of Literature in Journal Article

- **Introduction** – provide background information of the study
  - Research problem
  - Study significance
- **Literature Review** (see suggested model by Creswell 2003)
- **Methodology**
  - Sampling technique – justifying your technique, sample size chosen
  - Instrument development
- **Result**
  - No literature review
- **Discussion and conclusion**
  - Discuss/Explain how your finding compared to theory/past research
  - Discuss the contribution of your study to the body of knowledge in your area

Writing your citations: In-Text and End of Text

- Why do you have to cite your reference?
  - to credit the work of the scholars/researchers,
  - enable readers to find the information/article referred by the author,
  - add credibility to your argument.
  - Ethics - avoid plagiarism
- **Types of citations:**
  - *In-text citation*
  - *End of Text citation*
In-Text Citation: Citation placed within sentences and paragraphs in text. Clearly show about what information are being paraphrased or quoted and whose information did you use.

Direct citation
Middlemiss (2011) has distinguished between psychological contract and legal employment contract

Indirect citation
Researchers have utilized the concept of the psychological contract in a variety of ways (Roehling, 1997) but it is important to .......

More examples
End of Text citation – the List of References written at the end of an article

End of text reference

References
What is Plagiarism?

- Rewriting someone else’s script without quoting the source.
- Rewriting someone else’s script as if it is your own
- Cutting and Pasting internet materials
- Publishing someone else’s result without permission
- Reproducing someone else’s figure or table without quoting source (as after Author, year)

Guides to write a Literature Review

- [http://www.emeraldinsight.com/authors/guides/write/literature.htm?part=1](http://www.emeraldinsight.com/authors/guides/write/literature.htm?part=1)