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REMS 2021 Lunch and Learn: Lit Reviews and Databases

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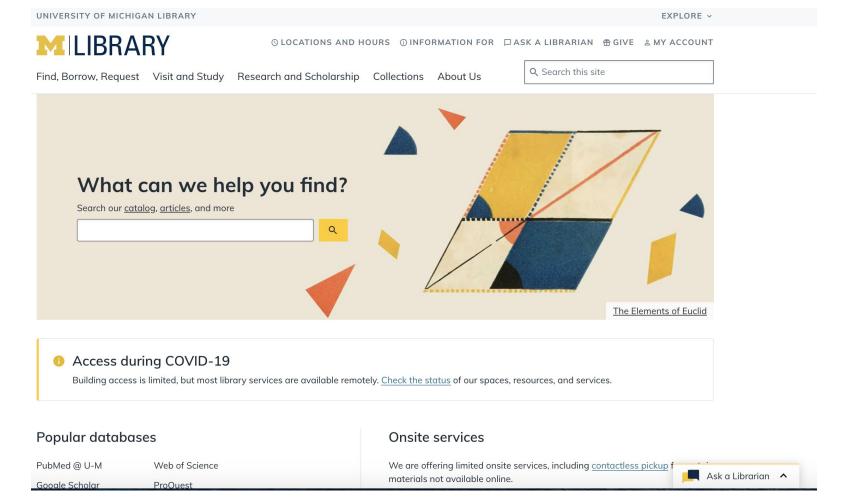
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The Elements of Euclid

ⓘ **Access during COVID-19**

Building access is limited, but most library services are available remotely. Check the status of our spaces, resources, and services.

Popular databases

PubMed @ U-M   Web of Science

Google Scholar   ProQuest

Onsite services

We are offering limited onsite services, including contactless pickup for materials not available online.

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Quick demo of the University Library Website

M | LIBRARY Research Guides

SI 623: Research Methods for Information Professionals

Search [   ] Search

Suggested resources and tools related to research methods in library, archival and information science. These will help you with the literature review component of your final research proposal assignment.

Getting Started

Article Databases

Professional Publications

More About Research and Research Methods

Research ethics

What is a Literature Review?

"A literature review is an evaluative report of information found in the literature related to your selected area of study. The review should describe, summarise, evaluate and clarify this literature. It should give a theoretical base for the research and help you (the author) determine the nature of your research. Works which are irrelevant should be discarded and those which are peripheral should be looked at critically.

A literature review is more than the search for information, and **goes beyond being a descriptive annotated bibliography**. All works included in the review must be read, evaluated and analysed (which you would do for an annotated bibliography), but relationships between the literature must also be identified and articulated, in relation to your field of research." (http://libguides.library.cqu.edu.au/litreview).

Rebecca's Profile

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More about the literature review

What is a Literature Review?

A literature review surveys scholarly articles, books, dissertations, conference proceedings and other resources which are relevant to a particular issue, area of research, or theory and provides context for a dissertation by identifying past research. Research tells a story and the existing literature helps us identify where we are in the story currently. It is up to those writing a dissertation to continue that story with new research and new perspectives but they must first be familiar with the story before they can move forward.

Purpose of a Literature Review

- Identifies gaps in current knowledge
- Helps you to avoid reinventing the wheel by discovering the research already conducted on a topic
- Sets the background on what has been explored on a topic so far

Ask Ask a Librarian ︿

[Research Guide](#) summarizes and reviews much of today's content!
See also: "Searching Databases" module in Canvas site for a basic intro

Activity Guidelines:

1. You'll be assigned a breakout group and a topic/question
2. 15 minutes group time
   a. Brainstorm relevant subtopics or related topics
   b. Brainstorm additional keywords that might help refine or expand your search
   c. Try to re-state or re-frame your assigned research question
3. Report out to large group for discussion (20-25 minutes)

Practice Questions:

Question 1: What is the impact of school or academic libraries on student learning?

Question 2: What is the role of libraries in the era of "fake news"?

Question 3: Are senior citizens able to find high-quality health information online?

Thank you! Please be in touch!

Ask a Librarian!

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