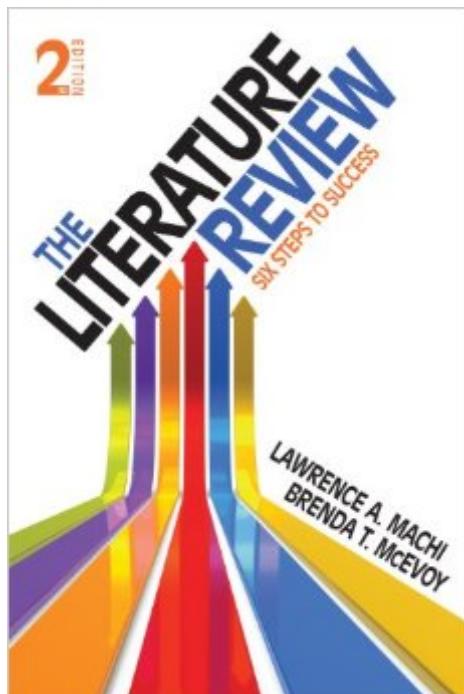


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The Literature Review: Six Steps To Success



Synopsis

The go-to guide to completing a thorough, well-organized, and effective lit review! This new edition of the best-selling book offers graduate students in education and the social sciences a road map to developing and writing an effective literature review for a research project, thesis, or dissertation. Updated with key vocabulary words, technology advice, and tips for writing during the early stages, the second edition takes students step by step through the entire process: Selecting a topicÂ Searching the literatureÂ Developing argumentsÂ Surveying the literatureÂ Critiquing the literatureÂ Writing the literature review

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Customer Reviews

This book is a much-needed life raft for graduate students lost amid the sea of literature on his/her topic. Straightforward, logical, and concise, it's an easy-to-use "calm-down pill" for those working through (and freaking-out over) the literature review stage of their thesis or dissertation. Ok, gently rub your sweaty palms together, take a deep breath, and open this book and read and/or skim-it from cover to cover; (it's only 154 pages). Then, take a legal pad to take notes and begin using

the book as a workbook to work through your own topic. Start with the Introduction -- read this section again very carefully, it's the template for the whole process. Then, when you're ready to begin, say to yourself five-times, "I can do this," and take another deep breath. You're about to embark on a most interesting journey; when you arrive, you'll know more about your topic than you ever imagined! Now, begin working your topic through the whole step-by-step process as outlined by each chapter in the book: Step 1: Select your topic (if you haven't already) -- follow Machi and McEvoy's guidelines as to how to specify a research interest. Step 2: Search the literature, following their suggestions. Step 3: Develop the argument -- build your case and evaluate the various parts of your argument. Step 4: Survey the literature -- assemble your collected data, synthesize it and look for patterns. Step 5: Critique the literature -- look for logical interpretations of evidence to produce propositions that signal a specific conclusion. Step 6: Write your review -- write it to understand, that is, to develop and understand your topic and to be understood as well.

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