

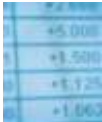




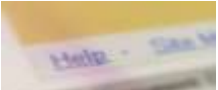


## Understanding Literature Reviews

<p><b>It's more than a pile of books</b></p>  <p>Should demonstrate wide reading &amp; crucially, the <i>ability to apply it</i>. Provides a theoretical context for your work. Enables a discussion of other relevant research, gaps, themes, similarities etc. Should demonstrate why your topic is important. <i>Don't just describe the books/journals: it's their usefulness/significance that is important.</i></p>	<p><b>Literature: topic or theme</b></p>  <p>This is literature that covers the same or similar topic or theme as your dissertation e.g. a dissertation examining the impact of migration on ethnicity in Lagos, Nigeria in the 1950s might have literature covering the following themes: migration, class, gender, urban history, urban culture, history of Lagos, Nigeria, West Africa etc.</p>	<p><b>Literature: methodology &amp; data collection</b></p>  <p>Literature that covers methodology or data collection. May include similar studies to yours that use different methodology, different but similar studies using identical methodology etc. The main purpose is to allow for a comparison of, and a discussion of, why/how you selected your methodology/data collection.</p>	<p><b>Book &amp; Journals</b></p>  <p>Avoid introductory texts or limit to 1 or 2. You must include journal articles. Extend your selection of materials by using other university libraries through the Inter-library request system and SCUNL. Your local library may also be able to order books for you. Lecturers and work placements can also provide another source of books or recommend/advise on sources.</p>
<p><b>Statistics, archives &amp; official information</b></p>  <p>Examples include: <i>Social Trends</i>, census, parliamentary publications such as HMSO, documents, archives, land ownership/company information, household surveys, financial information etc.</p>	<p><b>Grey literature</b></p>  <p>Will have no ISBN OR ISSN Examples include: newspapers, newsletters, theses, personal diaries/letters, conference papers, manuscripts, catalogues, audio-visual material, leaflets, advertisements, websites, discussion sites e.g. <i>Twitter</i>, Blogs etc.</p>	<p><b>Avoiding plagiarism</b></p>  <p>Literature reviews are a source of quotations. To avoid plagiarism take accurate notes including complete bibliographical information. Cut and paste URLs. Think carefully about why you want to use a quotation. What value does it contribute to your work? Would they be better paraphrased? Don't over-quote: keep them concise.</p>	<p><b>Help &amp; support</b></p>  <p>Academic Liaison Librarians can help with locating resources <a href="mailto:askalibrarian@worc.ac.uk">askalibrarian@worc.ac.uk</a> The Writer in Residence, Helena Attlee can help with the structure/style of your writing <a href="mailto:h.attlee@worc.ac.uk">h.attlee@worc.ac.uk</a> Your Supervisor (maximum of 4 hours for Undergraduates) Study skills website: <a href="http://www.worcester.ac.uk/studyskills">www.worcester.ac.uk/studyskills</a></p>

