

CNCSP 102 Literature Review Paper

The purpose of this assignment is for students to explore a topic of interest in the fields of Applied Psychology by reviewing a body of (at least 8) topical studies, literature reviews, and book chapters, etc. These published works can be secured from various sources or databases (PsycInfo, Google Scholar, etc.); however, they must be focused on a topic relevant to the *practice* of Psychology/ Education. After reviewing the published works, students will write a 5-6 page (approx.) paper (not including title page or reference page) summarizing the findings of these works and identifying 1 related area/question where additional research is needed. The paper should also adhere to APA formatting guidelines (6th Edition) and should be turned in electronically via the portal linked to Gauchospace.

The papers will be graded (50 points total) using the following rubric:

Applied Psychology Topic (relevance): 6 points

6 points: There is a clear, cohesive topic and you have explicitly described how it has implications for applied psychology

5 points: There is a topic that likely has implications for applied psychology, but the implications may not be clear or the topic may be broad/not cohesive

4 points: There is a topic that either is not fully formed OR there is a clear and cohesive topic that is only marginally related to applied psychology

3 points: There is a topic that is fully developed and cohesive but it is NOT applied.

2 points: There are the beginnings of a topic which may or may not have some relevancy to applied psychology, but there is a lack of focus to the way the topic is presented

1 point: It is not clear what topic is being written about, and it does not appear to be related to applied psychology

0 points: The paper does not have a topic

At least 8 citations (at least 6 peer-reviewed): 10 points

10 points: 8+ citations, 6+ from peer-reviewed journals

Students will earn 10 points for adhering for relevant citations that meet referencing requirements for the paper. If students do not meet the referencing requirement above, they will earn 1 point for every relevant peer-reviewed citation (up to 6) and may earn an additional two points for up to two appropriate non-peer reviewed source (e.g., a report from a non-profit organization, a reliable survey, a law) if they used under 6 peer-reviewed sources. Citations that are unrelated to the paper's content will not receive points.

Identification of Research Question: 8 points

8 points: The research question(s) is/are clear and specific

6 points: The research question(s) is/are mostly clear or is clear but very broad

4 points: The research question(s) is/are somewhat unclear

2 points: The research question(s) is/are largely unclear or undeveloped

1 point: The research question(s) is/are wholly unclear

0 points: No research question is presented

Research Question(s) Related to Topic: 8 points

8 points: The research question(s) is/are clear and are a natural extension of the literature review (e.g., responds to a gap in the existing research that has been identified in the literature review)

6 points: The research question(s) is/are mostly related to the topic; the progression from the literature review to the topic may be unclear

4 points: The research question(s) is/are somewhat related to the topic

2 points: The research question(s) is/are marginally related to the topic

1 point: The research question(s) is/are unrelated to the topic

0 points: There is no research question presented

APA Formatting: 8 points

8 points: Adheres to APA formatting throughout the paper and reference list. (no more than 2 errors in the paper total)

6-7 points: Largely adheres to APA formatting throughout the paper and reference list. There are small errors or moderate errors (no more than one error per page)

4-5 points: Somewhat adheres to APA formatting, but has substantial errors (e.g., the entire reference list is not APA-formatted) (no more than 2 errors per page)

3 points: Rare adherence to APA formatting at any point throughout the paper and reference list OR major issues such as using in-text citations but not using a reference list (or vice versa)

1-2 points: Very little adherence to APA formatting (following one or two formatting guidelines throughout paper)

0 points: There is no indication of APA formatting

Overall Quality of Writing: 10 points

10 points: Writing style is clear, academic, and well-organized. There are relatively few grammatical or spelling errors.

8 points: Writing style is usually clear, academic, and/or well-organized but has deficiencies in one of these areas (e.g., casual tone, an unclear paragraph or two) OR there are numerous grammatical or spelling errors but these do not substantially inhibit the reader's ability to read the paper

6 points: Writing style is somewhat clear, academic, and organized but has shortcomings in at least two of these areas OR there are numerous grammatical or organizational issues that inhibit the reader's ability to understand certain parts of the paper

4 points: There are large areas of the paper that are unclear or poorly organized; there are numerous grammatical or spelling issues throughout the paper that inhibit the reader's ability to understand substantial portions of the paper

1-3 points: A majority of the paper is unclear and poorly organized; there are numerous grammatical or spelling issues throughout the paper that inhibit the reader's ability to understand substantial portions of the paper

0 points: The paper is unclear to an extent that is not readable