

Literature Review Introduction

A literature review introduction provides a snapshot of the scope and depth of the research area being examined. It sets the context for the review, outlines the main themes, and identifies any gaps or controversies in the existing body of work.

1. Background/Context

Begin with a broad overview of the research topic. Briefly describe its significance and why the area warrants scholarly attention. For example:

"Over the past two decades, interest in environmental sustainability has increased considerably, reflecting the global urgency to address climate change."

2. Scope of the Review

Clarify the topics and boundaries of your review. Define what will and will not be covered.

"This review focuses on empirical studies published between 2010 and 2023 that examine urban sustainability initiatives in North America."

3. Purpose/Aim

Clearly state the purpose or objective of your literature review.

"The purpose of this literature review is to synthesize recent findings and identify trends in the implementation and outcomes of urban green policies."

4. Organization of the Review

Briefly describe how the review is structured or organized.

"First, studies related to policy frameworks are discussed; second, analyses of social and economic impacts are presented; finally, gaps and future research directions are identified."

Important Notes

- Keep the introduction concise, usually one to two paragraphs.
- Clearly define the scope, focus, and purpose of your review early.
- Provide context for readers unfamiliar with the topic.
- Avoid detailing results or findings here; reserve that for the main body.
- Ensure a logical flow leading into the main review.