

Guidelines for Review Paper

A review paper is a synthesis of peer-reviewed journal articles focused on a particular topic. After reading your articles, you should be able to identify 3 or 4 salient features to discuss in your review paper. When writing a review paper, you must keep the scope of the paper narrow enough to thoroughly discuss the topic.

I. Format

- a. The length of your paper should be 5-7 typed, double-spaced pages with one inch margins on all sides.
- b. You must use Times New Roman font (size 12) throughout the entire paper.
- c. You must use in-text citations to support factual statements and provide the complete bibliographical information in the Literature Cited section of your paper. Refer to Chapter 5 of your textbook (Pechenik 2007) for more details on citing sources and listing references.
- d. Your review paper must contain each of the elements provided below.

II. Elements of a Review Paper

- a. Title page
 - i. The title page should contain an informative title, your name, and the due date.
- b. Introductory paragraph
 - i. The introductory paragraph should provide enough background information so readers can easily understand the nature of your topic.
- c. Main body
 - i. The main body of your paper should synthesize previous work, not simply summarize it, by incorporating your own analysis of ideas presented in the literature.
- d. Closing paragraph
 - i. The last paragraph of your review paper should not only summarize the connections between your main points, but also cast your paper in a broader context.
- e. Literature cited
 - i. The literature cited includes bibliographical information for all articles cited in your paper.