

## Literature Review Sample Outline\*

*\*This is an outline for a paper that already has an introduction where 1) the research field and topic has been described, 2) a review of relevant literature has been given to provide context, and 3) a research question or thesis statement has already been identified. This sample has been modified to address CMGT 540 requirements.*

### Introduction (already written)

- I. CARS Model followed for the structure of the Introduction
- II. Example Research Question: What features of composition and rhetoric characterize graduate student writing in interdisciplinary contexts?

### Literature Review

- III. First Bucket or Theme 1: Student Writing
  - a. Overview of the characteristics of the theme (commonalities, differences, nuances)
  - b. Subtheme 1 (narrow, but grouped findings related to the theme): Undergraduate Writing
    - i. Study 1 (Research Question(s), Methods/Participants, Related Findings):  
“In a qualitative study examining Latino high school students, Campos (2016) found that the participants ....”
    - ii. Study 2 (Research Question(s), Methods/Participants, Related Findings):  
“In a similar study with African-American high school students, Sung (2015) identified three key factors...Sung surveyed across three different high schools, which may partially explain differences in responses.”
    - iii. Study 3 (Research Question(s), Methods/Participants, Related Findings)
    - iv. Do these studies share commonalities? How do these studies differ? Discuss.
  - c. Subtheme 2: Graduate Writing
    - i. Study 1 (Research Question(s), Methods/Participants, Related Findings)
    - ii. Study 2 (Research Question(s), Methods/Participants, Related Findings)
    - iii. Study 3 (Research Question(s), Methods/Participants, Related Findings)
    - iv. Do these studies share commonalities? How do these studies differ? Discuss.
- IV. Second “Bucket” or Theme 2: Published Writing
  - a. Follow a,b,c, and so on from above
- V. Conclusion: An evaluation/critique of the existing literature\*\*
  - a. What are the contributions of this literature to the field?
  - b. Return to your thesis statement or RQ
  - c. What are the overall strengths? What are the overall weaknesses?
  - d. What might be missing?
  - e. What are some next steps for research? The next steps should explicitly address how to “correct” for strengths, weaknesses, and gaps.

\*\*Might not be required for CMGT 540 final paper

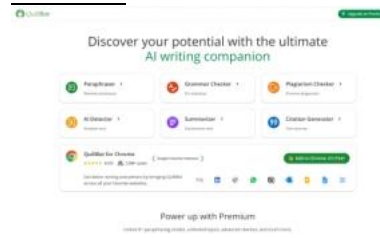
## Recommended AI tools

Latest on:

AI Tools

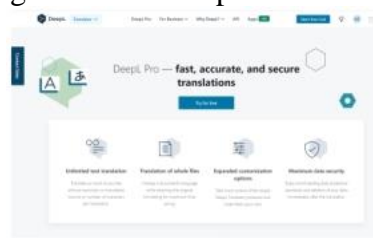
Machine learning

Authorship



QuillBot:  
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DeepL:  
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