# Checklist for an APA-style Literature Review Paper

(refer to the 5th edition of the APA Publication Manual for reference)

_____ Title Page: 5%

- Title: Capitals, informative, concise
- Author, institution, and date
- Page header and page numbers (on every page)
- No Abstracts please

_____ Introduction: 15%

- Title of paper on first page of text (this is a deviation from APA guide)
- Exposition of research topic (What will you be examining and why?)
- Theoretical reasoning leading to question or topic you are attempting to answer (Why is this topic important to study and what theory(ies) support the need to examine your topic)

_____ Literature Review: 45%

- Review and synthesis (integration) of relevant research (do not submit annotated bibliographies)
- Summary of relevant arguments (what did others study, why, what did they find, what were the implications of their findings; make sure to tie this with the topic you are addressing)
- Coherence (not long winded), clarity (express ideas clearly, defining major concepts), and organization (easy to follow sequential flow; "outline" of paper presented early in the paper and the order is followed)

_____ Conclusion: 10%

- Practical implications and applications of findings to other behaviors (What does it all mean? What was learned from this literature review? How can people apply the material you discussed to various situations?)
- Additional research questions stemming from current study (What else needs to be examined that was not addressed explicitly in your literature review? Why might these questions be important?)

_____ References & Citations: 15%

- Enough to support ideas and arguments (minimum of 10 empirical articles; more preferred)
- APA format (punctuation, spacing, accuracy)
- All citations referenced, all references cited (give credit where credit due)
- Appropriate credit to author(s) (no plagiarizing (when in doubt it's better to over-cite than to under-cite)

_____ APA Format and Overall Form: 10%

- Correct tense; noun-verb agreement; noun-pronoun agreement
- Grammar/Spelling/Typing Errors
- Punctuation
- Conciseness
- Cleanliness
- Quotations (correctly used in paper)
- Heading format
- Page numbers
- Staple on upper left corner of paper
- 1 inch margins all around, 12 point Font, Times New Roman, Double Spacing (**EVERYTHING**), Left Justify (except title page, headers, and page numbers)

_____ Checklist attached (-2 points if not)