Announcements and Upcoming Due Dates

• IRB Materials for students requiring review are due today!
  • Ready to submit if necessary? How did you find this process?

• “The 4,000 Words” (aka draft report sections) - due May 8th!

• Literature Review - draft due April 3, refined by April 24
OUR GOALS FOR TODAY

1. Talk about 298B
   What questions do you have?

2. Review the Literature Review
   Give you concrete examples and a chance to practice the types of analysis expected
Please...
Write down two questions you have about 298B.
298B - Key things to note

- Much more self-direct
- No class meetings
- Fewer items due, and they are BIGGER!
- You need to reach out to your instructor regularly to check in and ask for help
What is the PURPOSE of a literature review?

• Lit reviews help us to understand the field to which we are contributing. They allow us to critically engage with relevant studies that have come before, avoid duplicating what is already done and look for ways to learn from it and perhaps improve upon it.
What is the PURPOSE of a literature review?

• Evaluate the effectiveness of planning tools or policies

• Justify your own research as needed and relevant
  • Show that what you are studying has serious impacts
  • Contextualize historically, comparatively
  • Show how your study fits in, builds on, and contributes to scholarly conversation or discourse
What is the PURPOSE of a literature review?

• Get ideas and improve your methods!
  • Key variables to study
  • Useful sources of data
  • Statistical methods to use
  • Wording for survey questions, interviews, or evaluation checklists
  • Feasibility or challenges of methods
  • Unanswered questions
Literature Reviews in 298 Reports

• Might become a stand-alone chapter (but often does NOT)
• Might use bits and pieces throughout
• It could help you refine your research question and improve your methods!
• Should continue to add literature to your Report throughout the whole process as needed
We DO want to see **Synthesis** & **Evaluation**

- **Synthesis**: “the combining of the constituent elements of separate material or abstract entities into a single or unified entity” (Dictionary.com)
  - Interpret and evaluate individual pieces, then integrate/restate what we learned as original writing

- **Evaluate**: “to judge or determine the significance, worth, or quality of”
  - Critical evaluation of piece’s strengths and weaknesses
OK WHAT (doesn’t) GO IN A LIT REVIEW?! 

We are NOT looking for:

• A list of article summaries
• A well-cited essay
Time for an in-class EXERCISE!