

Writing Literature Reviews

Meeting 1 – Analysis

1. How to do Genre Analysis.
2. Analyze some sample Lit. Reviews as a class. Have small teams read one or two samples each, take notes from their analyses to share with the class.
3. Share our notes and distill a description of the genre: The Literature Review in Education.
4. Talk a bit about the process of doing a Literature Review, especially “How to Read for a Literature Review.”

HW: Do research, find articles, and read for your Lit Review. As you research, think about refining your understanding of a Lit Review. Please bring your pile of articles to class next time.

Meeting 2 – Process

1. Share ideas on refining our understanding of the Lit Review.
2. Talk about the process of doing a Lit Review for yourself.
3. Look at sample material as an example of how to read and take notes.
4. As a group, find gaps in sample literature and where he might locate a project of his own.
5. In small groups, use sample grids to organize a sample Lit Review on his topic.
6. Share our outlines of possible Lit Reviews. Distill a set of tips for doing a Lit Review.
7. In small groups, organize possible Lit. Reviews on your topics, based on your sources and reading so far.

HW: Draft some of your Lit Review. Any part of it, but enough to bring in and get some feedback. Bring three paper copies to share.

Meeting 3 – Draft and Feedback

1. Feedback day. Draft for me, two reads from your colleagues.
2. Talk about drafts. What is going well, what needs work, in a general sense.
3. Distill more tips for writing a Lit Review.

HW: Finish your Lit Review. Share copy with me for final comments.

Scheduled Meeting Dates

Meeting 1: January 26
Meeting 2: February 16
Meeting 3: April 13

All handouts are available on the SJSU Writing Across the Curriculum website:
www.sjsu.edu/wac