**What is a literature review?**

A literature review is not an annotated bibliography in which you summarize briefly each article that you have reviewed. While **a summary of the what you have read is contained** within the literature review, it goes well beyond merely summarizing professional literature. It **focuses on a specific topic of interest to you** and includes **a critical analysis of the relationship among different works**, and **relating this research to your work**. It may be written as a stand-alone paper or to provide a theoretical framework and rationale for a research study (such as a thesis or dissertation).