

# Searching and reviewing the relevant scientific literature

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# What's the point of doing science?

- Satisfy our curiosity
- Make stuff
- Contribute to human knowledge

# Think about which you'd expect to be more impactful:

- A “perfect” study carried out in secret, never shared
- A “good” study carried out in public, widely discussed, peer reviewed, published

# Contributing requires sharing

- When you do your own science, **you** can benefit
- **Others** only benefit if you share what you learned or found

# Sharing improves efficiency

- Consider everything we know, as a species
- How long did it take us to acquire that knowledge?
- How long would it take you to re-derive that knowledge?

# Contextualizing improves impact

- Scenario 1: we found something interesting! It's unrelated to anything people have done before.
- Scenario 2: we found something interesting! Here's how it fits in with other things you might know or care about.

# The “Discussion” section

- Summarize what you did and what you found
- Describe how your work **fits in with the broader literature**
- Describe what you think the **next steps** are

# The “Discussion” section


- Writing a good discussion section requires mining the literature for relevant material




# Where can you find relevant articles


- Old: go to a library and physically move papers around
- New: Google Scholar, Semantic Scholar



# Google scholar



psychology





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DR Lehman, C Chiu, M Schaller - Annu. Rev. Psychol., 2004 - annualreviews.org 

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ML Mitchell, JM Jolley - 2010 - psikologi.unmuha.ac.id

This book focuses on two goals:(1) helping students evaluate the internal, external, and construct validity of studies and (2) helping students write a good research proposal. To ...

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Self-regulated learning: Beliefs, techniques, and illusions

RA Bjork, J Dunlosky, N Kornell - Annual review of psychology, 2013 - annualreviews.org

Knowing how to manage one's own learning has become increasingly important in recent years, as both the need and the opportunities for individuals to learn on their own outside of ...

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Polycultural psychology

MW Morris, C Chiu, Z Liu - Annual review of psychology, 2015 - annualreviews.org

We review limitations of the traditional paradigm for cultural research and propose an alternative framework, polyculturalism. Polyculturalism assumes that individuals' ...

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Social ecology: Lost and found in psychological science

S Oishi, J Graham - Perspectives on Psychological Science, 2010 - journals.sagepub.com

This article presents a socioecological approach (accounting for physical, societal, and interpersonal environments) to psychological theorizing and research. First, we demonstrate ...

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Organic core-sheath nanowire artificial synapses with femtojoule energy consumption

W Xu, SY Min, H Hwang, TW Lee - Science advances, 2016 - science.org

Emulation of biological synapses is an important step toward construction of large-scale brain-inspired electronics. Despite remarkable progress in emulating synaptic functions ...

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# How to (very quickly) skim an article

- Read the title
- Skim the abstract
- Quickly look up key terms as needed
- Skip everything else
- Target: 30 seconds — 2 minutes

# How to (quickly) read an article

- Read the title
- Read the abstract
- Skim the introduction
- Look at the figures:
  - Read the captions, paper text as needed
- Skim the discussion section as needed
- Target: 5 minutes

# How to (deeply) read an article

- First pass: Read from top to bottom; highlight any key points or questions as you go
- Second pass: Focus on methods
  - Make sure you understand every sentence; if not, write down questions
- Third pass: focus on results:
  - Make sure you understand every figure; if not, write down questions
- Briefly summarize the main point and key findings
- Now re-read a final time to verify you've understood everything
- Target: several hours (or more)

# What's the appropriate reading depth?

- If a paper is tangential to your main point, very quickly skim (10—50 papers)
- If the paper is moderately related to your main point, read it quickly (5—10 papers)
- If the paper is central to your study, read in depth (1—3 papers)



# This week's lab: literature search and discussion

- Find a “template” paper and several related papers
- Re-factor the template's discussion section, taking the other papers into account

# This week's lab: literature search and discussion

