

# Writing a Literature Review

## Guiding questions to support planning, revising, and refining of a literature review\*

1. What is the focus and aim of your review? Who is your audience?
2. Why is there a need for your review? Why is it significant?
3. What is the context of the topic or issue? What perspective do you take? What framework do you use to synthesise the literature?
4. How did you locate and select sources for inclusion in the review?
5. How is your review structured?
6. What are the main findings in the literature on this topic?
7. What are the main strengths and limitations of this literature?
8. Are there any discrepancies in this literature?
9. What conclusions do you draw from the review? What do you argue needs to be done as an outcome of the review?

\* As with other sets of guiding questions in this book, select those questions that are relevant to your context, add others as appropriate, and decide the order in which you will address them to communicate effectively with your audience.

## References

Healey, M., Matthews, K., & Cook-Sather, A. (2020) *Writing about Learning and teaching in higher education: Creating and contributing to scholarly conversations across a range of genres*. Center for Engaged Learning Open-Access Books, Elon University. 142-152.