**Assignment Description:**

The synthesis of literature should focus *broadly* on factors associated with and underlying causes of your problem of practice.

This synthesis of research literature should be based on empirical research, with the majority of the references from peer-reviewed journals. Secondary sources (e.g., books or websites that provide an analysis of others’ research) are appropriate, and even critical, as a starting point to understand the research landscape. Secondary sources should be used to identify primary research but should not be used as the sole authority on the research. In addition, government reports of research conducted by such agencies as RAND and Mathematica are also appropriate, but the resources included in the synthesis should be from peer-reviewed journals. Please refer to the library orientation within the EdD orientation course for information regarding evaluation of sources.

Although summarizing articles is an important step in notetaking and writing, your goal for your final product is to provide an analysis of your selected journal articles by construct and synthesis across the articles. You should not summarize each peer-reviewed journal article individually in separate paragraphs; rather, draw connections across these resources as you are working to deeply understand your POP within your context of professional practice. For studies that are most important to your thinking, describe the methodology (e.g., data sources, sample, instrumentation, analysis procedures). This short description of relevant research will provide you and your reader with the information needed to draw connections between the individual studies and conclusions about the research more generally.

Directions:

1. Review the literature and identify how these primary sources can be synthesized to inform your understanding of your POP within your professional context.
2. Conduct a literature search to fill in any gaps you or your instructors have identified in your annotated bibliography or add depth in new or existing areas of interest. Please review the library module before you begin your literature search.
3. You are free to use any model or theory of your choice (describe and discuss the empirical work that supports the theory, moving from a broad perspective to a narrow one, ultimately leading to the research question).
4. Create a preliminary outline based on your theoretical framework and key factors related to your POP.
5. Select peer-reviewed journal articles that report primary research related to constructs that you will examine within the needs assessment study. Supplement these references with secondary sources as appropriate. While no literature review is exhaustive, you should strive to include the most relevant literature to broadly understand the factors associated with or underlying causes for your POP.
6. The literature review should follow the standard guidelines for APA formatting for paper organization and references, including Times New Roman, 12-point font, one-inch margins, and double-spaced text (10 pages or less). Your introduction should introduce your problem of practice, define key terms, and provide a rationale for the theoretical or conceptual framework.
7. This assignment will be submitted, as Word document (10 pages or less)
   * [Submit](https://jhu.instructure.com/courses/91239/discussion_topics/931542) your draft for peer review: 4/28/2025
   * [Submit](https://jhu.instructure.com/courses/91239/assignments/928613) your final paper: 5/5/2025

Use the following link to join: [https://zoom.us/my/christopherdeversLinks to an external site.](https://zoom.us/my/christopherdevers)

it is important to explore the literature to help answer . . .  
  
1. How is the research question extending the literature?  
  
or  
  
2. How is the research question filling the gap in the literature?

As for the literature review, move from a broad perspective to a narrow one, ultimately leading to the research question, which highlights how the research extends or fills the gap in the literature.

<https://robertslavinsblog.wordpress.com/2019/05/16/can-computers-teach/>

<https://hcii.cmu.edu/people/ken-koedinger> (ML piece)

<https://education.umd.edu/directory/patricia-alexander> (Patricia Alexander)

<https://www.shanahanonliteracy.com> (Tim Shanahan)

Literature on what has worked and has not worked (Tim Shanahan)

https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1747938X18301039 -- Effective differentiation Practices: A systematic review and meta-analysis of studies on the cognitive effects of differentiation practices in primary education

https://www.educationnext.org/ed-tech-utopia-is-over-personalized-learning/ -- Ed-Tech Utopia Is Over

30 second vs. 1 hour