Lit review:

Due after Christmas

Could be half report!

4 diff types of use of literature

* Back up – back up background and theory – can appear in any chapter
* **GAP analysis - establish what you’re doing is worth doing – this is a literature review**
* **Methodology – justify methodology -- these 2 v important - could be on its own or in literature review**
* Data source – use literature to prove certain things – rare – not part of lit review

**Back up** eg : ‘ecommerce has grown’ don’t make assertion – Back. It. Up.

**Gap analysis**

Show that your work is: original, needed …. Ie you are plugging a gap in the world’s published research

The FOCUS

Not about the subject

Its about what people have said

Can comment on:

* Who else says the same
* How reliable is the reported research?
* Do the results affect those of other authors
* How applicable is your project ?
* Implications of your research
* What’s not covered by any author

Eg of gap analysis:

Smith (2002) proposed this methodology …. However, his methodology ignore social efforts of … and Jones (2003)

Best ways of citing… ‘according to blogs (2002) he stated that ecommerce grew over the last few years

Overall structure:

1. Def of terms
2. What authors say about existence and extent of the problem and value of solution
3. What’s been done by other authors and has not been done to solve the problem elsewhere
4. Other work on similar problems that has useful lessons for your research
5. Conclusion:

Summary of all knowledge gaps and useful lessons

Verification and (poss) a refinement of the aims and objectives ie show your project is worth doing

Note on report: conclusion/summary after every chapter apart from intro and conclusion obvs

Objectives – goals

Aim – stepping stones

Structure around the objectives:

* Consider

Don’t include:

Anything not directly relating to aims and objectives eg history

Useful trick: write conclusion then write what helps support conclusion

Development: packages – not really lit review (unbiased literature)

**Methodology:**

Must – justify methods – research gathering methods

Acknowledge limitations

Methodology is about your approach and techniques NOT the detail of what you did