11 Sample Literature Review Introductions

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Government

Reproductive Rights in the U.S. Prison System

While women have historically represented a small minority of the prison population in the United States, they are currently the fastest growing segment of the prison population: Between 1980 and 2010, the number of incarcerated women increased at around 1.5 times the rate of men. The number of women increased by 646%, while the number of men increased by 419% (The Sentencing Project, 2012). Women have unique health concerns that require additional resources and expertise, particularly in relation to reproductive issues, but prisons have largely not met these concerns in part due to women’s historical absence from the prison system. Incarcerated women’s access to adequate reproductive health services is even more important because of the disproportionate percentage of incarcerated low-income and of color women, historically already disadvantaged minorities. In the last few years, feminist and social justice circles have paid increased attention to prisoners’ rights and the prison-industrial complex. As a result, the unique experiences of incarcerated women have been given more attention, particularly in relation to pregnancy and coerced sterilization. Efforts to shine a light on incarcerated women have focused on women’s lived experiences and possible legal and administrative avenues for change, though there is some disagreement on where to focus advocacy work. This paper will explore the state of incarcerated women’s reproductive rights, concentrating on coerced sterilization, access to abortion services, and experiences of pregnancy and childbirth, and identify areas of conflict in approaches to reform. These issues will be contextualized within the historical experiences of reproductive injustice for women of color.

Health administration

Into the Digital Age: An Analysis of the Current State and Future Possibilities of Electronic Health Records

As the digitalization of medical data is becoming ubiquitous, electronic health records

(EHRs) have been widely accepted as a medical necessity. As a result, advancements in the field

of electronic health records have garnered increased attention. The Affordable Care Act (ACA)

promotes the continued development of electronic health records to reduce costs, improve overall health, and increase the quality of care. Consequently, numerous studies are being done

to determine what efficient EHRs will consist of and how they must be implemented. These studies are specifically focused on cost and efficiency, physician difficulties, security and privacy as well as laws and regulations. Prior research suggests that while EHRs can be

difficult for physicians to learn and expensive to implement, access to one unified patient

file by both specialist and primary care physicians has the potential to wipe out longstanding

barricades. This literature review will address the challenges and advantages of electronic

health records with a focus on methods of implementation of EHRs in a new era of healthcare

information technology.

Criminology

Causa Sui: How One Wrong Begets Another;

A General Strain Theory Approach to Crime and Recidivism

When humans study humans, there are an abundance of perspectives and explanations, always connected but seldom conclusive. According to social science, questions regarding an individual’s behavior can be answered by exploring the society in which they live. Criminologists frequently ask: why do people commit crimes? Which people are more likely to do so? With a constant presence in human history, across cultures and creeds, the persistence of criminal and deviant behaviors is matched only by the desire to know how to predict these damaging acts within our own societies and prevent them from happening. To this end, this paper will evaluate the merits of a new criminological theory known as General Strain Theory, which focuses on the strains of perceived injustice as a predictive factor of criminal or deviant behavior for use in a criminological context. Questions that must be addressed in this theory are as follows: Can this theory be applied to any type of crime? Are certain kinds of strains predictive of violent behavior? And can this theory be used practically in the criminal justice system? This literature review will seek evaluate the surety of general strain theory as applied to these key questions

Economics

Land Tenure Insecurity and Agricultural Development: The Case of Ethiopia

While people in the western world, especially in the United States, worry about

obesity and its associated health problems, many people in Africa, especially in Ethiopia, are

noticeably underweight and malnourished. And while agriculture in the United States

employs only 0.9% of the labor force and contributes 0.6% to GDP (Central Intelligence

Agency, 2008), it is able to feed the entire nation. In contrast, even though agriculture in

Ethiopia employs 80% of the labor force and contributes 60% of the GDP (CIA, 2008),

the sector is not productive enough to feed the whole population of the country. Why?

Environmental, cultural, social, historical, political, and economic reasons can be pointed

to as plausible causes for the backward growth of the agricultural sector in Ethiopia. However,

the scope of this paper is limited to the economic factors, which are believed to be the main

reason for the poor performance of the agriculture sector. Among the economic factors,

failure in formulating and pursuing sound economic policies, particularly in the area of

property rights or land tenure rights, is one of the main reasons for food insecurity in the

country. How does land tenure insecurity affect farmers’ initiative to invest in long-term

cash crop? How does it affect their efforts at soil and water conservation? And how does it

affect the off farm activity in rural areas? This research paper addresses these and other

related questions.

Kinesiology

The Effects of Occlusion Training on Athletes

Athletes, fitness enthusiasts, and recreational gym goers are always looking for new and better ways

to get bigger and stronger. As a result, researchers have begun to study occlusion training and its

effects on individuals’ muscular strength and size. Occlusion training utilizes low intensity resistance

training while moderately restricting blood flow to the working muscle group. The restriction of blood

flow has been shown to activate more fast twitch muscle fibers at low intensities and cause an increase

in growth hormone secretion due to the accumulation of metabolic by-products. Prior research shows

promising evidence that low intensity occlusion training increases muscular strength and size in

untrained and rehabilitating populations. This literature review will address the benefits and drawbacks

of occlusion training in trained individuals, with a specific focus on athletes.

Nursing

The Impact of Nurse Staffing on Patient Outcome

As healthcare rapidly changes and improvements are made in treatment, disease and injury

prevention, and overall patient outcome, long-term care (LTC) patients are being left in the dust.

While new medical technologies are being developed to improve patient outcome, some of the

most basic ways of preventing patient decline are being ignored. According to the American

Health Care Association, there were 70,000 vacant positions in LTC facilities (9,800 RNs,

12,900 LPNs, and 47, 300 CNAs) in the United States in 2012. Throughout the United States,

researchers are looking at healthcare staffing in LTC facilities to investigate staffing levels in

Registered Nurses (RN), Certified and Licensed Nursing Assistants (CNA or LNA), and Licensed

Practical Nurses (LPN) and their impact, if any, on patient outcome. These studies focus on either

the number of staff members in a facility or the amount of time each staff member can spend with

LTC residents each day. Prior research suggests that higher staffing levels and subsequent increased

time spent with LTC residents can vastly improve patient outcome. Researchers are looking for changes

in patient outcome by measuring variables such as urinary tract infections, pressure ulcers, dehydration,

weight loss, falls, and hospitalization. Other studies measured patient outcome by self-reported patient

happiness, comfort, and emotional well-being in comparison to staffing levels. Creating LTC

environments with safe and adequate staffing levels has the potential to rapidly improve healthcare

for LTC residents through direct care time or through reducing the amount of overtime done by

nurses and nursing staff. This literature review will address the challenges in accurately measuring

patient outcome, the advantages of researching staffing ratios and patient outcome, and the

challenges and benefits of researching and implementing safe staffing levels to improve LTC.

Graphic design

Education in the Graphic Arts

As society emerges into the digital age of the 21st century, graphic design is gaining

increased prominence as a career path worldwide. Along with constant changes and

improvments in technology used by designers, a key debate in the field regards the methods

and techniques used to develop and educate new graphic designers. To be more specific,

researchers have questioned the effectiveness of teaching graphic design courses in the

same way we teach fine arts courses. However, many of the current thoughts on the subject

are simply speculation, with little practical research being done in classrooms. This

literature review will address the current methods of pedagogy for graphic design in higher

education, discussing the aspects that do not need to be changed and offering solutions to

aspects that do need to be changed to best suit today’s technological environment and most

efficiently develop cognizant designers.

Public health major

Comparison of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome

Since more synthetic chemicals are being developed and diseases are constantly evolving, our

rapidly globalizing world is at increasing risk of new epidemic diseases. In order to prepare for

unexpected outbreaks in the future, it is important to explore various cases of epidemic diseases

throughout the world and compare them to identify the reasons behind the success or failure in the

prevention of the spread. Although there have been numerous studies done on individual epidemic

diseases, there are a limited number that compare multiple infectious diseases. This literature review

will study and compare various aspects of two major outbreaks: Middle East Respiratory Syndrome

(MERS) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). Since experts and past research have found

MERS poses a greater threat than SARS, the two diseases will be analyzed and compared in the following

categories: transmission pattern, geography, demographics, and effect on healthcare personnel.

Game Design

In recent decades, public education in the United States has floundered and stagnated, leaving

students uninspired, unmotivated, and most importantly, less educated. When video games were first

being developed in the 1970s, few would have imagined that someday they could hold the key to

revitalizing the educational system and engaging generations of students who might otherwise find

themselves weighed down by the monotony of standardized tests and one-size-fits-all curriculums. Past

research conducted to assess the capacity of video games in stimulating intellectual growth has

primarily focused upon cognitive developments, including spatial reasoning skills, spatial awareness,

working memory, and attention allocation, among several others. In addition to the cognitive gains, this

paper will further explore the intellectual growths that can be achieved through video games, such as

social engagement, motivational boosts, and emotional development, and will explore how video games

could augment public education based upon these findings.

Global Affairs Top of Form

Climate change has become the most pressing matter in the international community as people

from all over the world have been negatively affected by the warming of the planet. As sea levels rise,

people living in vulnerable areas are forced to migrate to more a sustainable land. This mass

displacement of people has created a new subgroup of migrants called Climate Change Refugees who

have little to no legal rights. In the small Pacific nation of Kiribati, climate change adaptation policies

have been implemented in order to stunt the negative effects of rising sea levels, however,

contamination of fresh water has led to increased health issues, and destruction of land used for living

and farming. Climate refugees often face unwelcoming nations and no international relief even though

many large nations such as the United States have made international agreements with Kiribati but have

yet to act. This literature review will cover the themes of climate change effects and adaptation,

international treaties and aid, and the legal rights of climate change refugees.

Accounting

With the development of technology, the capitalization of companies is becoming

more and more globalized. Meanwhile, the companies are facing greater risk of corruption. Past

research has been done to find the best way to detect, reduce, and avoid corruption inside

companies, and how to use internal control to solve corruption problems. Studies have

shown that corruption in high-tech companies is more difficult to detect than in other types

of companies, and special use of internal control is required under this condition. This

literature review will focus on the following themes: reasons that corruption happens inside

high-tech companies, why it is difficult to detect the corruption, how high-tech companies

can use internal control methods to detect and avoid corruption, and how high-tech

companies can develop their internal control strategy to avoid corruption in the future.