

The Literature Review: an Essential Task Which Can Also Be Fun

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When Tuesday, 10 January 2023, 10:15-15:45 Where Campus US, Building S, Room US-S 0101

Obergraben 25, 57072 Siegen

Organiser House of Young Talents

Language English

Intended for Prospective and current doctoral researchers

The literature review is an essential task in any PhD project as well as any individual paper. It can be very time-consuming, but even when a lot of effort has gone into it, the process can still leave one with a feeling of dread: What if I missed out on essential stuff? As online search options have proliferated and been refined, the literature review has paradoxically not become easier, or so it seems: How does one stay on top of this absolutely massive and growing pile of scientific findings even in the most niche PhD topics?

The workshop will try to help PhD candidates through the following steps:

- Search systematically: "Snowball" or "Shelf-browsing" research is all very well, but in view
 of the mass of available literature any academic research must be thoroughly systematic.
- Hunting and gathering is not enough. Findings must be sorted by relevance and quality.
- Sorting your collection, again, is not enough. You must engage with the literature and structure the findings in an enlightening and interesting narrative: How did we come to know what we (think we) know and what remains unknown as of the time of writing? The focus, of course, should point straight at the research question of your PhD.

How to register

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