**Literature Review Grading Rubric**

**Student:**

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| **Criteria** | **20 points** | **16 points** | **12 points** | **8 points** | **0 points** | **Points Earned** |
| **Abstract** | The abstract is a brief, focused description of the contents of the paper | Generally focused on the contents of the paper | Somewhat focused on a broad topic | Scattered, random writing without focus | N/A |  |
| **Introduction** | Clearly and concisely articulates the topic of study, states the research question(s) motivating the investigation, and discusses the theoretical/conceptual framework and historical background for the study | Discusses the topic of study, the research question(s), and the theoretical/ conceptual framework or historical background for the study | The topic of study and research question(s) are unclear. The framework and background for the study are vague | Unfocused and wandering discussion; missing multiple required elements | N/A |  |
| **Discussion of Key Terms** | Keywords and essential terms are clearly discussed and defined using direct support from authoritative sources on the topic; includes citations | Keywords and essential terms are clearly discussed and defined | Definitions of keywords and essential terms are ambiguous or vague | Missing multiple required elements | N/A |  |
|  | **80 points** | **60 points** | **40 points** | **20 points** | **0 points** |  |
| **Review of the Literature** | Relevant research findings are tightly synthesized and organized by themes/categories; uses a *balanced* amount of direct quotation; includes citations to support findings | Research findings are organized by themes/categories; uses direct quotations and includes citations to support findings | Research findings are summarized by study, rather than synthesized by themes/categories; direct quotations are used either too heavily or too sparingly | Fails to include relevant research or includes findings unrelated to the topic; sources of argumentation and support unclear | N/A |  |
|  | **20 points** | **16 points** | **12 points** | **8 points** | **0 points** |  |
| **Summary/ Conclusion** | Includes a focused summary of key findings from the review; gaps in the literature and recommendations for future research are clearly discussed | Includes a summary of key findings from the review; gaps in the literature and recommendations for future research are identified | Summary of key findings is unfocused or inconsistent with the review; gaps in the literature or recommendations for future research are vague | Unfocused and wandering summary; missing multiple required elements | N/A |  |
| **Grammar, Usage, & Mechanics** | 0–2 errors | 3–4 errors | 5 errors | 6–8 errors | More than 8 errors |  |
| **APA Format** | 0–2 APA errors | 3–5 APA errors | 6–7 APA errors | 8–9 APA errors | More than 10 APA errors |  |
| **Total:** | | | | | |  |
| **Instructor Comments:** | | | | | | |