Conducting a literature search: Humanities and Social Sciences

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Overview

- Definition – Literature review
- Context – in Research cycle
- Steps – Literature review
- Locations
- Resources
Definition: Literature review

“A literature review is a descriptive and/or analytic summary of the existing material relating to some topic or area of study. The term also refers to the process of producing such a review.”

- SAGE research methods, accessed on 5 April 2018
A good literature review

• Comprehensive
• Fair in treatment of authors – do not presume that you know all authors within the field
• Critical analysis
• Topical – not dated
• Not confined to internet resources
• Contextualised
The Research Cycle

1. Define the Essential Question
2. List Subsidiary Questions
3. Develop a Research Plan
4. Gather Information
5. Sort and Sift through Information
6. Synthesize information into new concepts
7. Evaluate whether questions have been answered
8. Report Conclusions

Revise Questions

Revise Plan
Steps: Reviewing the literature

- Identify search terms
- Search for resources
- Locate resources
- Select resources
- Export to a Reference Management tool
- Read and summarise resources
How do I start ...
Topic

Negotiating a new cultural space: aspects of fantasy in contemporary South African youth literature
But how?

- analyse Topic
- Understand concepts
- determine Keywords
- do the Search
### Identify keywords

Negotiating a new **cultural space**: aspects of **fantasy** in contemporary South African youth literature?

### Identify sub questions

- What are the characteristics of the fantasy genre?
- What is youth literature?
- What is cultural space?
- What is the nature of contemporary SA literature?
Keywords

Negotiating a new cultural space: aspects of fantasy in contemporary South African youth literature

Alternative keywords:
Adolescent, Young Adult Literature = Jeugliteratuur
Coming-of-age; Identity
Post-colonial writing
Fantasy
Liminal space; Liminality
Modern South African literature
Locations

- Library webpage
- Interlending
- Databases*
  - SAGE
  - Ebsco
- Research guide
- Chelsa

* Subject guides provide recommendations
Resources

- Library catalogue
- Encyclopaedias, and other reference works
- Books
- Research articles
- University repositories
- Evaluating web-based information
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Search

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(youth literature OR children's literature) south africa

Advanced Search
4. **Women writing Africa. The southern region**
   by M. J. Daymond
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   - Available Merensky Library Open Collection Level 6 820.992870968 WOMEN

5. **International companion encyclopedia of children's literature**
   by Peter Hunt, Sheila G. Bannister, Ray
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   - Held by: University of Pretoria Libraries
   - Not Available Mamelodi Library Reference Collection MAMN 809.8926203 INTERNATIONAL

6. **International companion encyclopedia of children’s literature**
   by Peter Hunt
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1. J.M. Coetzee and the paradox of postcolonial authorship
by Jane Poyner

Illuminating J.M. Coetzee’s preoccupation, from Dusklands to Diary of a Bad Year, with the paradox of postcolonial authorship engenders, Jane Poyner... Read More

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  - Last 10 years
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  - Custom year range

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<td>JSTOR Archive Collections Complete (1974-03-01~4 years ago, volume:1;issue:1)</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
1. Jeanie Conan's An African ABC.

By: Jenkins, Elwyn. English in Africa, Apr 2017, Vol. 44 Issue 1, p97-112,
A copy of an unpublished manuscript of a children's alphabet book that was has been released by the Osborne Collection of Early...

Subjects: Alphabet in literature; War in literature; Children's literature;

PDF Full Text (4.9MB)


3. The Chronicles of Peach Grove Farm: An Exceptional Early South African Children's Book by Nellie Fincher.


The article reviews the book "The Chronicles of Peach Grove Farm," by Nellie Fincher.

Subjects: Children's literature; Fiction; Chronicles of Peach Grove Farm, The (Book); Fincher, Nellie

PDF Full Text (136KB)

4. Is Platkops Children?

By: Jenkins, Elwyn

Focuses on criticisms on Platkops Children.

Subjects: Fiction; Children's literature; Plattkops Children (Book); Smith, Pauline


Authors: Lenta, Margaret

Source: English in Africa

Date: 2000

Publication Type: Academic Journal

Abstract: Argues that the work of Pauline Smith, 'Platkops Children,' is far from being a sentimental children's story as commented by scholar, Dorothy Driver. Demonstration of Smith's awareness of the ways in which the social practices which she examined in her 'adult' fiction affect children; Autobiographical strain of Smith's work; Idiosyncratic discourse of the narrator.

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- Search case law.

Results per page

Google's default (10 results) provides the fastest results.

Where results open

- Open each selected result in a new browser window

Bibliography manager

- Don't show any citation import links.
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A readers guide to contemporary feminist literary criticism
M Humm - 2015 - taylorfrancis.com
... are a sign of the isolation of writing women and a lack of cultural space, while her ... It is not surprising, therefore, that in that pioneering text of contemporary feminism, Sexual Politics (1970) ... To question the representation of a raped woman in literature is to demystify patriarchal ...
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Writing new identities: Gender, nation, and immigration in contemporary Europe
G Brinker-Gabler, S Smith - 1997 - U of Minnesota Press
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S Murray - 2012 - books.google.com
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Text, theory, space: land, literature and history in South Africa and Australia
K Darien-Smith, L Gunner, S Nuttall - 2005 - books.google.com
... explores the meaning of 'The South' as an aesthetic, political, geographical and cultural space ... Rob Nixon is Associate Professor of English and Comparative Literature at Columbia University. He has written articles on contemporary South African politics and culture in journals ...
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Consult these e-Reference Books when clarifying terminology:

- Encyclopedia of Research Design
- Oxford Reference Online
- Pharos Dictionaries
space

A Dictionary of Sociology (4 ed.)

Reference type: Subject Reference
Current Version: 2015

...of Space (1974). Social space is not coterminous with physical space and particular fields or spaces of action may extend beyond specific physical locales or may connect a number of distinct physical locations. Thus, cultural scenes, art worlds, and musical subcultures are cultural spaces constituted by the activities of musicians, artists, audiences, producers, media specialists, and others with a specific interest in common but who come together in a single place only rarely, if ever. All social structures, to a greater or lesser extent, are separated from...
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- **Oxford Constitutional Law**

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☐ Africa-Wide Information

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Forgot your user name and password?
Wildcards
To include variable spelling
“?” Replaces one letter e.g. Organi?ation

( results will include organiSation and organiZation)
travel AND tourism

travel OR tourism

travel NOT tourism

(travel OR tourism) AND Web

(travel AND tourism) NOT tourists
Phrase search:

“exercise physiology”
Two words must appear next to each other

Truncation

search on part of a word: child*
  = Children
  = Childhood

Results will include both children and childhood

By: Lemoyne, Jean; Poulin, Caroline; Richer, Nadia; Bussières, André. Journal of the Canadian Chiropractic Association.

Background: Scientific evidence suggests many health benefits are associated with sport participation. However, high injury risk of musculoskeletal...

Subjects: SPORTS injuries risk factors; SPORTS injury prevention; ANALYSIS of variance; CHI-squared test; COLLEGIATE CONFIDENCE INTERVALS; LONGITUDINAL method; POISSON distribution; PROBABILITY theory; QUESTIONNAIRES; RE-SPORTS; SPORTS injuries; STATISTICS; SURVEYS; VARIABLES (Mathematics); SAMPLE size (Statistics); DATA analysis; DISEASE prevalence; CROSS-sectional method; DESCRIPTIVE statistics; Fitness and Recreational Sports Centers.

2. Dentists' Attitudes and Perceptions toward Protective Mouthguards.


Objectives (Background): Risk of dental injury from contact sports can be prevented by the use of mouthguards. Dentists' mouthguards. Thus, the aim was to a...

Subjects: PREVENTION of injury; ATHLETES, DENTISTS' attitudes; PRACTICE of medicine; MOUTH protectors; SURVIVAL; statistics; Other Spectator Sports; Offices of Dentists.

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1. IBBY In South Africa.


The article presents information on the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) congress titled "Books for Africa" held in Cape Town, South Africa on September 5, 2004. The detailed...

Subjects: POLITICS & literature; CHILDREN'S literature; CONFERENCES & conventions; YOUNG adult fiction; YOUNG adult literature; SEMINARS; LITERATURE & state; CAPE Town (South Africa); SOUTH Africa; UNITED States; Convention and Trade Show Organizers; HEALE, Jay

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2. Guest Editor's Introduction Cluster: Children's Literature in South Africa.


The article discusses various reports published within the issue, including one by Elizabeth Muther and Elwyn Jenkins on research in the domain of youth literature, one by Molly Brown on youth li...

Subjects: YOUNG adult literature; LITERATURE & society

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Training schedule

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Refer to the following two articles:

Making sense of credibility on the Web: Models for evaluating online information and recommendations for future research / Miriam J. Metzger

How students evaluate information and sources when searching the World Wide Web for information / Amber Walraven Saskia Brand-Gruwel Henny P.A. Boshuizen
https://doi.org/10.1016/j.compedu.2008.08.003
Thank you