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### Writing rubric for Research in Special Education (ESPE 6602)

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**Literature review paper:** As a final paper, students are required to submit a literature review paper on their own research topic by the end of the course.

### **Literature Review Paper Outline**

The purpose of this assignment is to provide students with an opportunity to apply and refine the skills presented in ESPE6602, Research in Special Education. The assignment requires students to locate and use resources (i.e., research articles) to write a literature review paper.

The specific guideline/directions for each section are provided through the readings and learning activities on the course Blackboard.

The final paper should include the following:

#### **Introduction**

- Problem statement
- Purpose statement
- Research question(s)
- Operational definitions

#### **Method**

- Search procedure
- Inclusion and exclusion criteria

#### **Results**

- Table of summary
- Research designs
- Participants
- Measures

#### **Discussion**

- Recommendations
- Limitations
- Conclusion

#### **References**

#### **Note:**

All written assignments must follow APA style and format (6<sup>th</sup> edition).

- The required paper format: 1-in margins, double-spacing, left-alignment, Times New Roman, 12-pt type for text, a cover page with a title and your name, must be saved as a WORD document, no PDFs.

Please check the library's APA Citation Guide for the APA citations:

**Final Paper Evaluation Rubric**

<b>Component</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Score</b>
Introduction	The introduction section provides a convincing overview of the problem related to the research question(s). The purpose of the study and research question(s) are explicitly delineated with operationally defined terms.	The introduction section provides a logical overview of the problem related to the research question(s). The purpose of the study and research question(s) are delineated with adequate terms.	The overview of the problem related to the research question(s) is somewhat missing a logical flow. The purpose of the study and research question(s) are vague and unclear.	
Method	Provides appropriate search procedure, inclusion and exclusion criteria that are suitable to answer the research question(s).	Provides appropriate search procedure, inclusion and exclusion criteria that are suitable to answer the research question(s), but some details are missing or vague.	Provides appropriate search procedure, inclusion and exclusion criteria that are suitable to answer the research question(s), but many details are missing or vague. The methodology is largely incomplete.	
Table of summary (double points)	The summary table includes information on research design, participants, and measures for each reviewed study.	The summary table includes information on research design, participants, and measures for each reviewed study, but some information is missing.	The summary table lacks information for each study.	
Results (double points)	The studies are synthetically reviewed by research designs, participants, and measures. The review is comprehensive and logically coherent.	The studies are synthetically reviewed by research designs, participants, and measures. The review is comprehensive but lacks a logical coherence.	The review is not comprehensive and not logically organized by research designs, participants, and measures.	

Component	5	4	3	Score
Discussion (double points)	Recommendations, limitations, and conclusion are all logically aligned with the introduction, method, and results.	The discussion section has all the required components, but it lacks logical coherence with the previous sections.	The discussion section is not complete and missing a logical flow.	
Grammar, clarity, and organization	The paper is well written, and ideas are well developed and explained. Sentences and paragraphs are grammatically correct. Uses subheadings appropriately.	The paper effectively communicates ideas. The writing is grammatically correct, but some sections lack clarity.	The paper communicates ideas adequately but contains some grammatical errors. Many sections lack clarity.	
References and citations (APA style, 6 <sup>th</sup> edition)	Properly and explicitly cited. Reference list matches citations.	Properly cited. May have a few instances in which proper citations are missing.	The paper has several instances of improper use of citations. Contains several statements without appropriately citing.	