Organization

Introduction

- Provide your reader with background information about your topic.
- Validate your research by explaining why your topic is important and how your study will add to the conversation.
- Provide your research question, your thesis, and your organization.
- Demonstrate logically your research.
- Provide the literature review
  1. You will identify and describe current scholarship (avoid listing); instead, organize the scholarship into clusters of like ideas and synthesize the information so that you are providing concepts and methodologies that will add to your proof.
  2. If you use contrasting scholars, or scholars that you may not completely agree with, make sure you synthesize, compare, and contrast in a logical and reasonable form.
  3. The literature review allows you to demonstrate what has been done but it also allows you to demonstrate where the scholarship is weak or lacking.
- The lit review allows you to do the following:
  1. Demonstrate your knowledge—you know your stuff.
  2. Provide your ethics—you will only use scholarly, trustworthy sources.
  4. Provide models of studies.
  5. Provide results of existing studies.
  6. Serves as a huge information dump that justifies your study.
- Skills that you will need to write the introduction and lit review:
  1. Read and critique others works—when you read scholarly articles, you must annotate the work, critique it, and use it.
  2. Incorporate others’ works in your work, so you will need to summarize, paraphrase, and quote as well as synthesize.

Methodology

- Summarize and describe your study.
- Explain the process of your study and your data collection.
- Identify, describe, and justify your subjects or groups.
- Compare your study to similar studies in the field.
- Provide tables, graphs, and charts.
- Provide copies of survey questions, interview questions, or any other primary research that you have done.
Analysis

- Explain the process of your analysis.
- Provide visuals.
- Analyze the data and describe the findings.

Recommendations

- What can the industry learn from or the disciplines do with your results?
- Is this a starting point for more research?

Conclusion

- Summarize the problem again.
- Describe the study or problems (briefly).
- Provide the so what: this study is important because…. 