CHAPTER TWO
LITERATURE REVIEW

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Portfolio Preparation & Graduation Thesis Study

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Outline

- **Objectives**
- **Outcomes**
- **Introduction**
- **How to write a literature review**
- **Theoretical framework**
- **References**

Objectives

- ✓ The objective of the Literature Review is to critically analyze previous studies, theories, and case examples to build a strong foundation for the research, identify gaps, and connect the project with existing knowledge.

Outcomes

- By the end of this lecture, students will be able to:
- Explain the purpose of a literature review in research.
- Identify and summarize relevant theories and previous studies.
- Critically analyze case studies and research findings.
- Recognize research gaps that support their project.
- Organize literature into a coherent framework for their study.

1ẍIntroduction

- A literature review is a survey of scholarly sources on a specific topic.
- It provides an overview of current knowledge, allowing you to identify relevant theories, methods, and gaps in the existing research.
- Writing a literature review involves finding relevant publications (such as books and journal articles), critically analysing them, and explaining what you found.

2x̃How to write a Literature ReviewH̃

A good literature review doesn't just summarize sources– it analyses, synthesizes, and critically evaluates to give a clear picture of the state of knowledge on the subject

2ẽHow to write a Literature ReviewĦ

Search for relevant literature

✓ Before you begin searching for literature, you need a clearly defined topic.

✓ If you are writing the literature review section, you will search for literature related to **your research problem and questionsẽ**

For exampleŞ

If the Research question was Ş

How can interior design create a cultural museum in Erbil that preserves Kurdish heritage while offering a modern, engaging visitor experience?

For exampleŞ
If the Research question was Ş

How can interior design contribute to creating a ==cultural museum== *in Erbil that* ==preserves== *Kurdish heritage* *while offering a modern and engaging* *visitor experience*?

You have to break down your research question into the main keywords and related synonyms:

- ==*cultural museum*== ⟶ heritage center, identity museum
- *Preservation* ⟶ Heritage preservation, cultural conservation, intangible heritage, material culture, vernacular architecture
- *Kurdish heritage* ⟶ vernacular architecture

- *Visitor Experience in the museum*

2x̃How to write a Literature ReviewH̃

✓ Use your keywords to begin searching for sources.
✓ Some useful databases to search for journals and articles include:

- **Your university's library**
- **Google Scholar**
- **JSTOR**
- **EBSCO**

2ẍHow to write a Literature ReviewĤ

Write your literature Review

1ẍ Introduction: Establishing Purpose
2ẍBodyŞanalyzing the literature
3ẍConclusion: summarizing key findings

Literature Review Example

Cultural museums play a vital role in preserving and representing the collective memory and traditions of societies. They act as spaces that bridge the past with the present through storytelling, artifacts, and design. According to Macdonald (2011), cultural museums are not just repositories of objects but also institutions that shape identity and community engagement. The design of such museums must strike a balance between authenticity and accessibility, ensuring that exhibits effectively convey cultural narratives. In modern contexts, cultural museums integrate interactive and interpretive strategies that make heritage meaningful for contemporary audiences (Nikitin, 2019). Therefore, cultural museums serve as both guardians of heritage and active cultural educators, making interior design a central tool for creating meaningful visitor experiences. Note: the conclusion sentence is your own conclusion; there is no need for a reference

Literature Review Example

Heritage preservation ensures that both tangible and intangible aspects of culture are safeguarded for future generations. This concept is central to museum design, particularly in contexts where cultural identity is under pressure. UNESCO (2012) emphasizes that heritage preservation involves protecting not only physical artifacts but also oral traditions, rituals, and local crafts. In the museum context, design decisions—such as materials, lighting, and spatial organization can reinforce authenticity and enhance conservation practices (Avrami et al., 2019). Additionally, heritage preservation strategies must balance between maintaining original cultural expressions and adapting them for contemporary display (Smith, 2006). Thus, heritage preservation within museums extends beyond protection; it involves creatively translating cultural values into engaging and sustainable exhibitions.

. Note: the conclusion sentence is your own conclusion; there is no need for a reference

Literature Review Example

Kurdish heritage is rich in language, folklore, music, crafts, and vernacular architecture. However, political instability and modernization have threatened its continuity. Scholars argue that Kurdish cultural identity has historically been marginalized, which highlights the importance of museums as platforms for cultural preservation (Yildiz, 2007). Vernacular Kurdish architecture, traditional textiles, and oral traditions are key elements of this heritage that require careful documentation and representation (Gündoğan, 2016). A museum in Erbil dedicated to Kurdish heritage would provide both preservation and visibility, strengthening cultural pride while educating younger generations. Kurdish heritage, therefore, demands thoughtful curation and display within museums to ensure cultural survival and intergenerational transmission.

Note: the conclusion sentence is your own conclusion; there is no need for a reference

Literature Review Example

Visitor experience is central to the effectiveness of museums. A well-designed interior can transform passive viewing into active learning and engagement. Falk and Dierking (2016) argue that visitor experience depends on personal, sociocultural, and physical contexts. Interactive exhibits, digital media, and storytelling are increasingly used to create immersive environments (Bitgood, 2013). Furthermore, studies highlight that design elements such as spatial flow, lighting, and interpretive texts strongly influence visitor satisfaction and learning outcomes (Pine & Gilmore, 2011). In heritage museums, engagement must balance entertainment with cultural authenticity. Effective visitor experience strategies ensure that cultural museums are not only preservers of heritage but also vibrant educational and social spaces that foster long-term cultural connections.

Note: the conclusion sentence is your own conclusion; there is no need for a reference

3x̃Theoretical Framework

Table 2.1 Theoretical Framework

Main Variable	Sub-Variables
Cultural Museum	• Identity Building • Representation of Culture • Museum as Social Space
Preservation	• Tangible Heritage (artifacts, architecture) • Intangible Heritage (language, traditions) • Sustainable Conservation Practices
Kurdish Heritage	• Vernacular Architecture • Traditions & Customs • Oral Culture & Memory
Visitor Experience	• Learning & Engagement • Interactivity & Immersion • Social & Emotional Connection

(Researcher)

This section is important!!

Include at least 10 literature reviews, aligned with your project's problem statement and research questionsx̃

General Notes

o At the end of Chapter Two, write a brief paragraph to lead into Chapter Three. Summarize Chapter tow, introduce the purpose of the Methodology chapter, and explain how it connects to your study. Around 4–6 sentences.

o The maximum length of this chapter is 10 pages.

o Figures should be added in the required parts.

4 Chapter Structure

2.1 Chapter Introduction
2.2 Literature Review
2.3 Theoretical Framework
2.4 Chapter Summary

4. Homework

Write chapter two with this structure
2.1 Chapter Introduction
2.2 Literature Review
2.3 Theoretical Framework
2.4 Chapter Summary

Note: At least 10 literature reviews should be included and should be approved by the supervisor

Do you have any QuestionsȞ