



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH
informatics

Informatics Project Proposal: Tutorial 3: Literature Analysis and Research Question Development

INFR11291: Informatics Project Proposal



THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH
INFORMATICS FORUM

Elevator Pitch

Write a 150-word elevator pitch describing your MSc project. Your pitch should be clear enough to explain your work to someone outside your field yet highlight the significance of your research.

Content (1 mins)

- Compare methodologies/approaches, main findings, and limitations.
- Synthesise literature
- Identify gaps
- Define research questions

Exercise 1: Compare findings across papers (8 mins)

Pick two papers that focus on the same (or a similar) problem of your project.

For each paper, identify:

- the problem it investigates
- the approach or methodology used
- the main findings
- the limitations

Discussion: Compare and contrast findings
across papers (5 mins)

Now share your findings with your group/classmates.

Exercise 2: Synthesizing the literature into a coherent narrative (8 mins)

Based on Exercise 1, write a concise paragraph comparing and contrasting the methodologies/approaches, main findings, and **limitations** relevant to your project.

Refer to Lecture 4, slide 13, and focus only on aspects that directly relate to your own project.

Discussion: Synthesizing the literature into a coherent narrative (5 mins)

Now share your writing with your group/classmates.

Exercise 3: Peer review of your paragraph (4 mins)

Discuss your key points, focusing on the strengths and limitations you identified in your paragraph.

Exercise 4: Identifying gaps (5 mins)

Based on the previous exercise, identify what is missing (the gaps) and write a gap statement.

For example:

“Existing research examines/reveals X; however, Y remains unexplored.”

Discussion: Identifying gaps (5 mins)

Now share your findings with your group/classmates.

Exercise 5: Drafting Your Research Aim(s) or Question(s) (4 min)

Write a draft of your project main aim or research question(s). Explain how this fills the gap(s).

Example:

The aim of this project is to [main action: investigate, develop, analyze...] [topic/phenomenon]. This addresses the gap in [specific area] identified in previous research, which has not yet [what has not been done]. By doing so, this project will [expected contribution/impact].

Discussion: Drafting Your Research Aim(s) or Question(s) (3 min)

Now share your findings with your group/classmates.

Homework: Draft a State-of-the-Art section

Please continue identifying additional relevant papers and then write a State-of-the-Art section based on the papers you have analysed (1-2 pages).

Any questions?