



FINAL YEAR PROJECT SEMINAR Literature Survey

Dr. Nadia Razali

nadiarazali@unikl.edu.my

Introduction

➤ What is a Literature Review?

- The 'Literature Review' is the part of the dissertation where there is extensive reference to related research and theory in the field
- Overall, the function of a literature review is to show how related work in the field has shaped and influenced your research.
- You should aim to use the literature selectively and creatively to provide a stimulus for your own work.

Purpose of a Literature Review

- To provide a **historical context** for your research
- To give an overview of the **current context** in which your research is situated
- To show **relevant theories and concepts** for your research
- To **provide definitions and relevant terminology** for your research
- To **describe related research** in the field and how your work extends this or addresses a gap in previous work in the field
- To **provide supporting evidence** for a practical problem which your research is addressing

What a Literature Review is not...

A straightforward summary of everything you have read on a topic

A chronological account of how research has developed in your field

Where to position Literature Review?

- In the dissertation itself, the literature review can be realised in different ways:
 - It may occur in a chapter entitled **Literature Review – usually as Chapter 2**
 - This chapter is likely to be divided into topic-related sub-sections
 - The literature review may occur in a chapter or series of chapters with topic-related titles
 - The literature review may be interwoven throughout the whole dissertation

Literature Review Structures

What is the main focus?

What are the key concepts?

Establishing the key debates in the field?

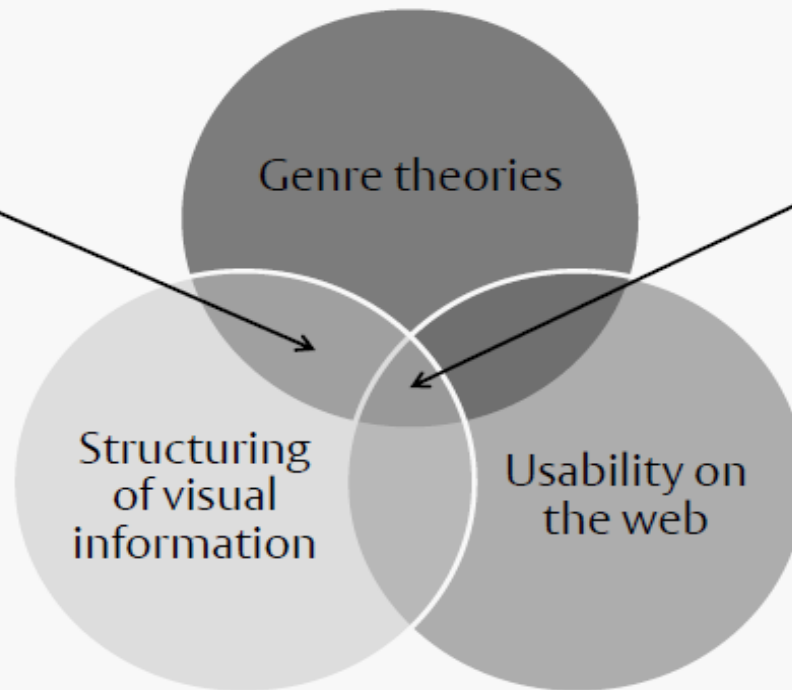
Setting up a theoretical framework

Identifying gaps in the research

Providing an ongoing 'dialogue' with, or perspectives on your analysis

One Way Of Looking At A Literature Review

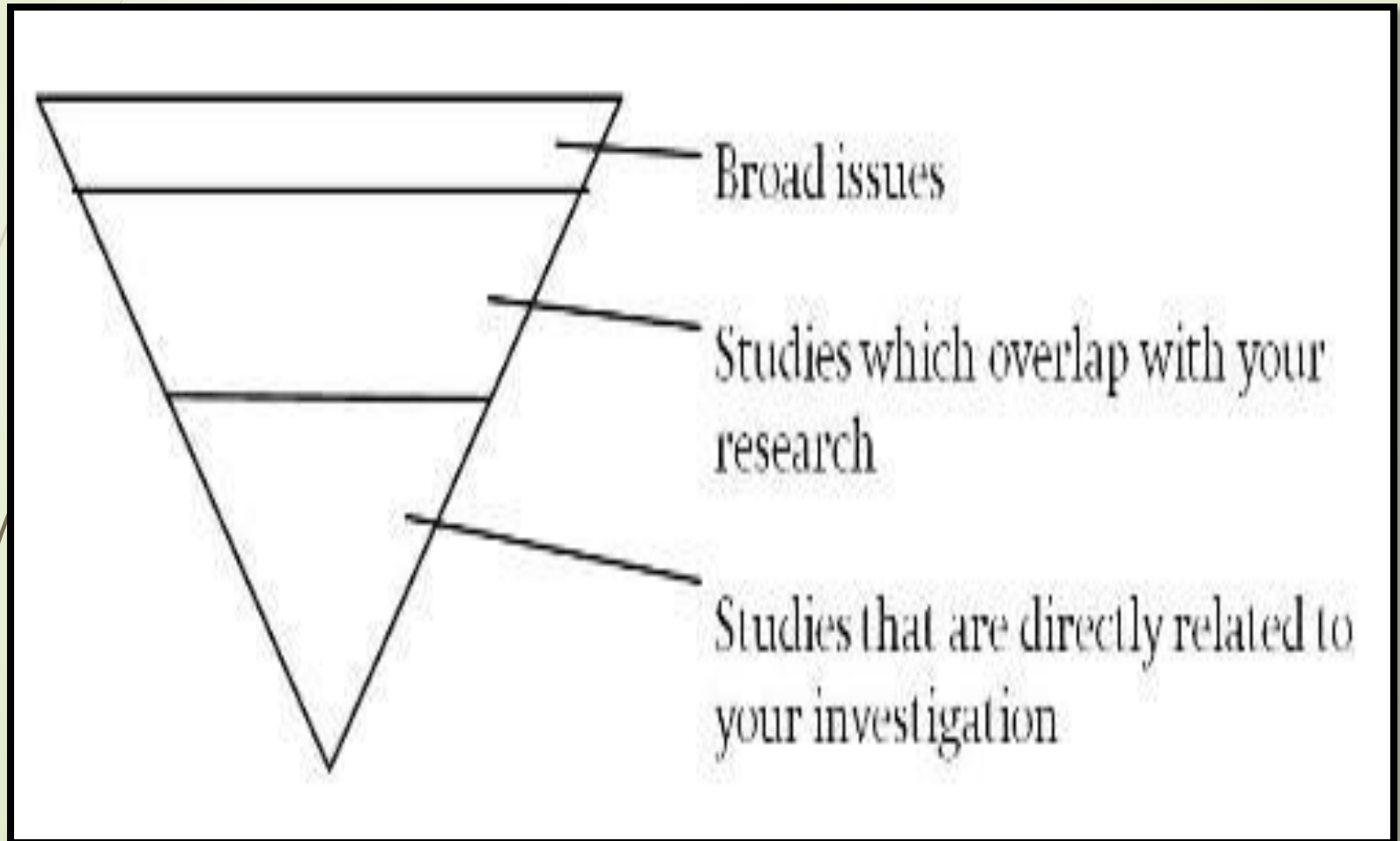
Intersection between visual conventions and genre conventions



Investigating how genre conventions affect usability and user performance on the web

Visual genre conventions and user performance on the web

Literature Review Approach - An Inverted Triangle



Literature Survey

- Search Technique
- How should I look for literature?
- Question to ask?
- How to Find Scholarly Articles Online
- Using UniKL's Online Service

Search Technique

Primary Sources

- Letters/correspondence, diaries, memoirs, autobiographies, official or research reports, patents and designs, and empirical research articles.

Secondary Sources

- Academic journal articles (other than empirical research articles or reports), conference proceedings, books (monographs or chapters' books), documentaries.

Tertiary Sources

- Encyclopedias, dictionaries, handbooks, atlas

How should I look for literature?

Look at a few secondary sources - recent published reviews or textbooks

- Does it worry you that somebody might have published a review paper that covers your topic exactly?

Define the scope of your literature review as clearly as you can

- You should already have enough information to come up with a series of questions or topics that can be used as tentative headings

You should also make a list of **keywords**

- apply to your topic, and also a list of names of relevant authors.

Questions to ask?

- Verify the source
 - Who wrote it?
 - Where was it published?
- What were the aims and objectives?
- What were the outcomes?
- Were the methods / approaches / strategies appropriate and comprehensive?
- What might have been overlooked or biased?
- Do the results justify the interpretation and conclusion?
- What are the strengths and weaknesses?
- In what context was the research conducted?
- What was its contribution to the field?
- How does it link to my research question?

How to Find Scholarly Articles Online

Look at the individual websites of well known journal publishers.

- These will contain a lot of abstracts that can be downloaded with payment, although sometimes they are free of charge as well.

Turn to Google Scholar

- Simple keyword searches may not be as beneficial in terms of returns as in the normal Google search engine.
- Try using the advanced search options to search for phrases, titles, authors, etc.

Google Scholar

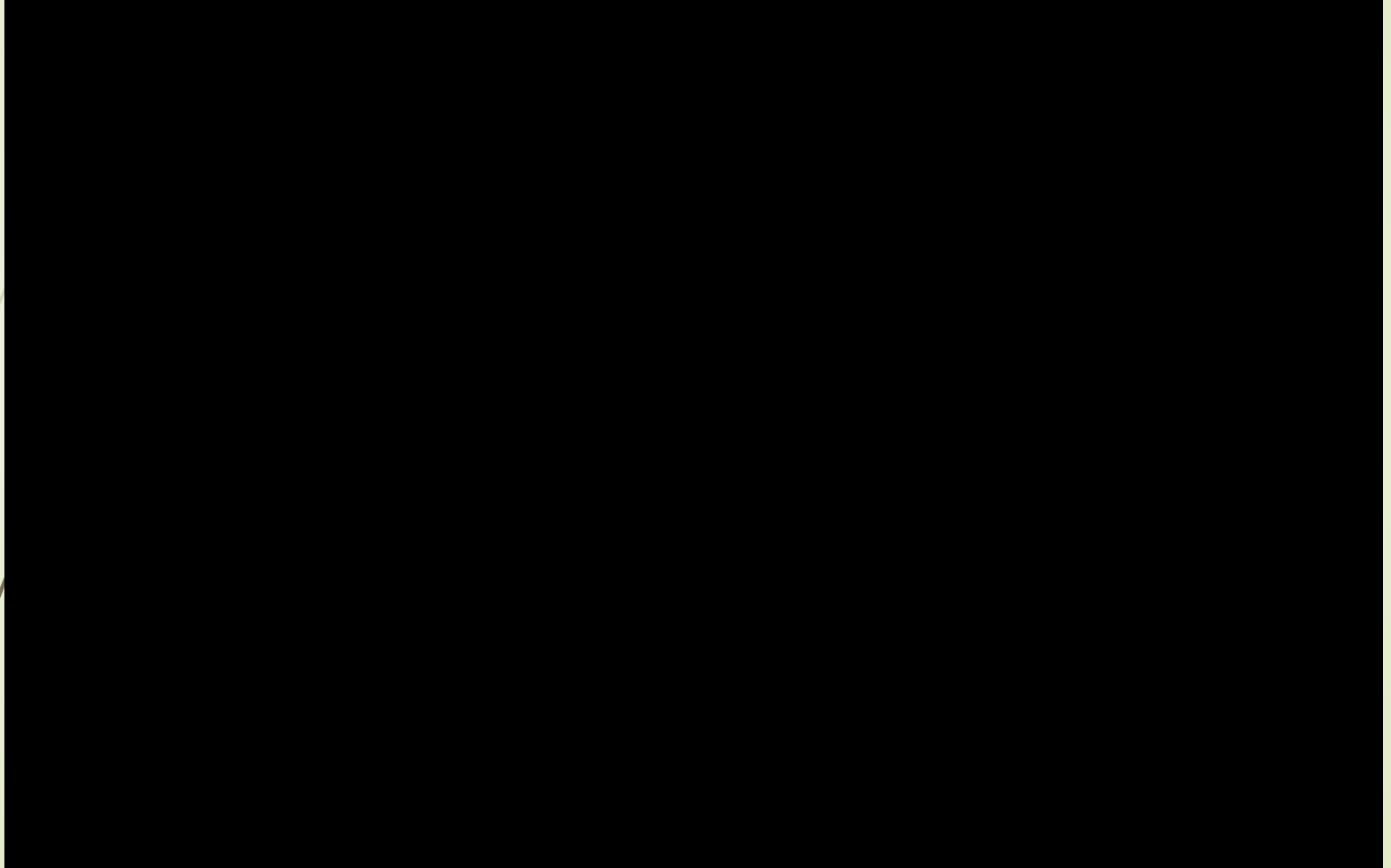


- Google Scholar is a freely accessible web search engine that indexes the full text of scholarly literature across an array of publishing formats and disciplines.
- A mega search engine that search across many databases, regardless of subject area or languages.

Google Scholar

The image shows a screenshot of the Google Scholar website. The browser's address bar displays `scholar.google.com.my`. The page features the Google Scholar logo, a search input field, and a search button. Below the search field, there are radio buttons for "Articles" (selected) and "Case law", with a checked box for "include patents" under the "Articles" option. The slogan "Stand on the shoulders of giants" is centered on the page. The footer contains links for "About Google Scholar", "All About Google", "Privacy & Terms", and "Go to Google Scholar". The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the system tray with the time 12:29 PM and date 7/10/2014, along with several open applications including Dropbox, Google Scholar, Literature Survey, and a screencast application.

Google Scholar



How to Find Scholarly Articles Online

Visit the DOAJ

- This is the Directory of Open Access Journals
- <http://www.doaj.org/>.

Check out universities

- A number of universities are taking a very open approach to providing scholarly articles to the general public

How to Find Scholarly Articles Online

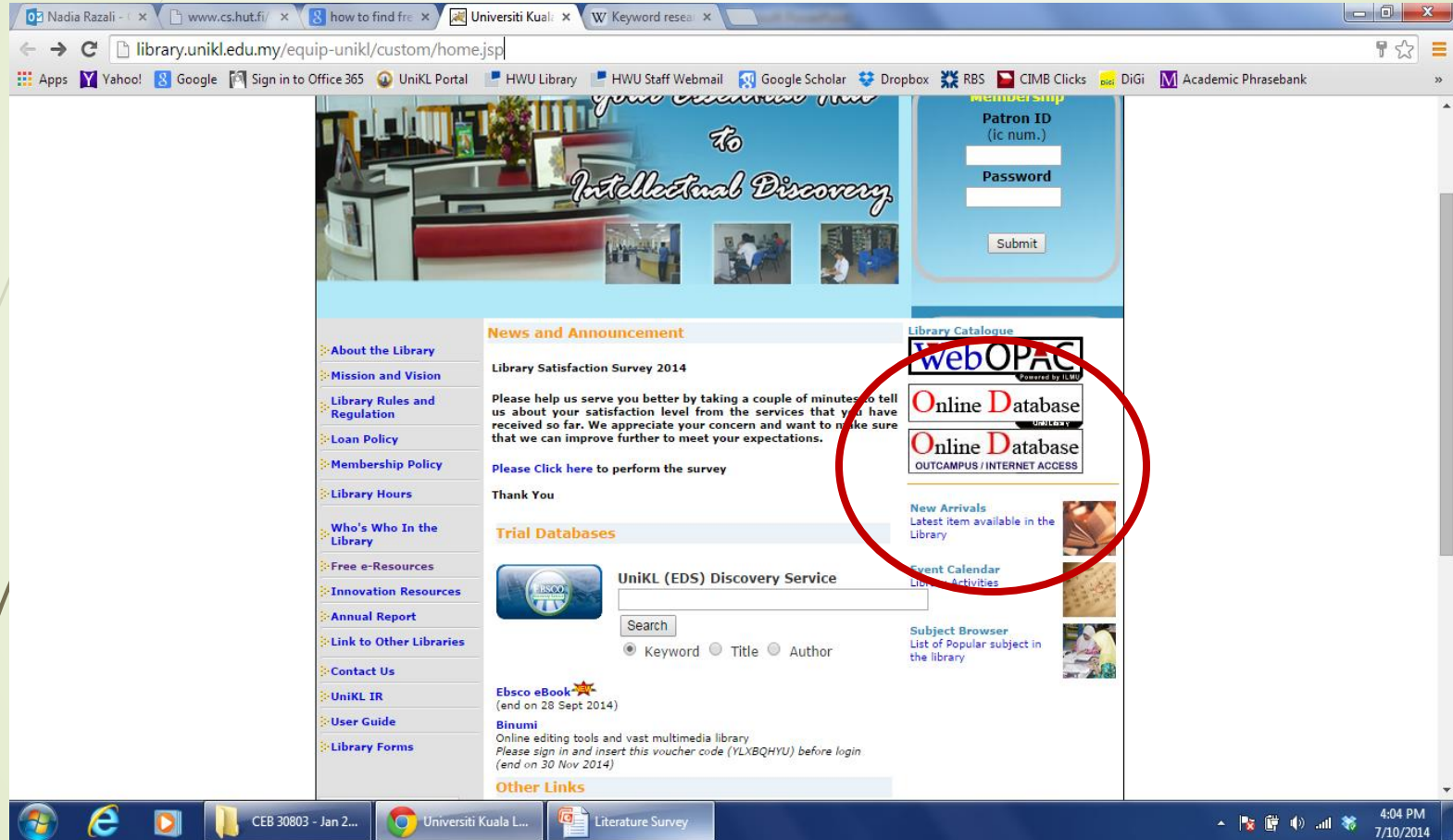
Look for articles on government websites and parliamentary/legislative websites.

- You're not just limited to your own government; you are able to visit the websites of any government whose language you can read.
- For EU, given that everything has to be published in each of the languages of the parties to the Union, you will always find English copies of all their materials.

Search for United Nations organization's articles. T

- here is a lot of academic and professional work available free-of-charge or at minimal cost available on UN's websites.

Using UniKL's Online Service



The screenshot displays the UniKL library website interface. The browser address bar shows the URL `library.unikl.edu.my/equip-unikl/custom/home.jsp`. The page features a navigation menu on the left with categories such as "About the Library", "Mission and Vision", "Library Rules and Regulation", "Loan Policy", "Membership Policy", "Library Hours", "Who's Who In the Library", "Free e-Resources", "Innovation Resources", "Annual Report", "Link to Other Libraries", "Contact Us", "UniKL IR", "User Guide", and "Library Forms".

The main content area includes a "News and Announcement" section with a "Library Satisfaction Survey 2014" notice, a "Trial Databases" section featuring the "UniKL (EDS) Discovery Service" search interface, and a "Library Catalogue" section. The "Library Catalogue" section contains a "WebOPAC" logo, an "Online Database" link, and a "New Arrivals" section. A red circle highlights the "Online Database" link in the "Library Catalogue" section.

The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the system clock as 4:04 PM on 7/10/2014, along with several open applications including "CEB 30803 - Jan 2...", "Universiti Kuala L...", and "Literature Survey".

<http://library.unikl.edu.my/equip-unikl/custom/home.jsp>

How to find sources?

- There are many ways to find secondary sources through the library website;
 - OPAC
- Using the many Databases that the library subscribe;
 - <http://library.unikl.edu.my/equip-unikl/custom/onlinedatabase.jsp>
 - UniKL (EDS) Discovery Service
 - ScienceDirect (2009 publications onwards)
 - ASME Journal
 - IEEE Explore

Other Database

MyTO : Malaysian Theses Online

- It is a list of a theses collection compiled from public universities and university colleges as well as three main selected private universities.

MyULIS : Malaysian Union List of Serials IPTA/IPTS

- It is a portal that lists the titles of all serial publication subscribed by all university libraries in Malaysia.

Malaysian Academic Library Union Catalog (MALCat)

- PERPUN library catalog is a union catalog of all the public University Libraries and Government link cooperation University Library registered with Ministry of Higher Education

Valid Sources

Refereed article
in a **journal** or a
conference

Book published
in scientific
series

Articles referred
to in other
articles

Wikipedia Is Not A Source For Scientific Writing!

- ▶ Wikipedia has no formal and strict refereeing
 - ▶ Reviewers in Wikipedia can be from a completely different field
- ▶ The disciplines get mixed up in Wikipedia
 - ▶ Wikipedia articles try to cover every discipline, which causes loss of the focus
- ▶ Wikipedia is modified constantly which hinders checking the reference
 - ▶ Reader of the literature survey must be able to access the exactly same text as the author
- ▶ Even Encyclopedia Britannica is not a source for scientific information
 - ▶ Encyclopedias list facts, but not the reasoning or research methods behind them