A literature review paper reviews and synthesizes the current understanding of a particular topic. It is a very useful way to become up to date on the state of knowledge and the research that has been done in a particular research area. Writing a review paper is good practice for synthesizing and organizing a lot of information into a concise product (i.e. a short written document). Reviewing and summarizing the literature is a critical skill for successful scientists. In particular, this skill is an important component of identifying research questions and writing research proposals. When writing such a paper, scientists rarely, if ever, just sit down and write a first draft and turn it in. Rather, they write outlines and multiple drafts, editing each draft themselves, in addition to having others edit their papers. You will practice this process with your paper.

You must do library research to collect journal articles (and books) to write your paper. Information from the Internet will not be accepted, unless it is from a journal that is published or available on the web. You should write your paper for an audience that is relatively familiar with terminology (such as a peer in this class; i.e., you do not have to define there terminology). However you should not assume that the reader has read the papers that you have read. In addition, you should define any new terms or jargon that have not been discussed in class or course readings.

There will be FIVE main steps involved in writing this paper (each graded separately):

(1) [20 points] TOPIC CHOICE
(2) [80 points] SOURCES
(3) [50 points] PAPER OUTLINE
(4) [50 points] DRAFT OF THE RESEARCH PAPER
(5) [100 points] FINAL RESEARCH PAPER

[300 points] TOTAL

DESCRIPTION OF THE 5 MAIN STEPS:

(1) TOPIC CHOICE: You will pick a topic of choice for your literature review. The topic must be relevant to the field of athletic training.

(2) SOURCES: Prior to writing the outline, you will search the literature and identify articles that are relevant to your topic. You will be using these articles to write the outline of your paper. You will turn in the reference page with the citations from the articles that you are going to use for your paper (at least 8 articles).
(3) PAPER OUTLINE: Using the sources that you have previously found, you will write an outline of your research paper. You will include appropriate subheadings and quotes from the sources in the outline.

(4) DRAFT: After the outline is complete, you will begin to write your paper. The paper will be 7 paragraphs long (introduction, 5 body paragraphs, and a conclusion). The paper will also include a reference list of all the sources that were used in the paper. An outline for writing the paper will be found on another page.

(5) FINAL RESEARCH PAPER: After at least one draft with revisions the final paper will be turned in. Make sure to have multiple drafts with revisions if needed before turning in the paper. The paper should have all the appropriate paragraphs and at least 8 sources cited.

DUE DATES:

(1) TOPIC CHOICE: DONE
(2) SOURCES: Wednesday, DECEMBER 16th
(3) PAPER OUTLINE: Friday, FEBRUARY 19th
(4) DRAFT: Friday, APRIL 1st
(5) FINAL: RESEARCH PAPER: Friday, MAY 13th

ASSIGNMENT #1: TOPIC CHOICE
COMPLETED
Pick a topic for your paper that is relevant to the field of athletic training. The topic that you pick must have 5 subtopics that you will be able to write a paragraph about. Take the time to research the topic of your choice and make sure that you can find scholarly article related to the topic and subtopics that you chose. You will be required to turn in a topic/subtopic outline sheet to get credit for this assignment.

ASSIGNMENT #2: SOURCES
Due December 16th, 2015
Find at least 8 sources that are relevant to your topic or subtopics. The sources MUST be scholarly articles that are peer reviewed (Wikipedia does not count as a source). Once you have found at least 8 sources (your paper may require more), then you will create your reference page. You will be required to cite all of your articles in MLA format for your reference page/works cited. Your reference list needs to be in alphabetical order and in MLA format. You can reference Purdue Owl Online Writing Lab if you have and questions on MLA format.
Articles from popular press sources such as Discover magazine, Time magazine, National Geographic or newspaper articles do not count as 'journal articles'. Articles from scientific journals such as Wikipedia, WebMD, etc. do count. If you have ANY doubt about what counts, please contact me BEFORE submitting your assignment! Your grade will suffer if I discover that you misinterpreted something after you turn it in.

Information from the Internet also may not be used for this paper, unless it is from an e-journal (a peer-reviewed journal that is published on the web). Again, if you are unsure, please contact me before you turn in anything.

ASSIGNMENT #3: PAPER OUTLINE
Due February 19th, 2016
Gather the scholarly articles/sources that you will use on your paper. After you have gathered your articles, you will prepare a paper outline that organizes the topics that you will included in your paper. There are 5 subtopics/sections that you will need to organize your information.

I. Introduction – The points here should provide background information that introduce the relevance of your topic within terminology. They should lead logically to the specific objectives of your review.
   A. first point (Hill 1987)
   B. second point (Brown et al. 2001; Hilton et al. 1998)
   C. paper objectives
   D. At the end of the introduction, the reader should have a sense of the structure of the overall review. In other words, you can briefly mention the major sections of the paper.

II. Section 1 (put subtitle here)
   A. First point (Cheruvelil et al. 2000)
   B. Second point (Carpenter et al. 1984; Pace et al. 1987)
   C. etc. Note that the key to a successful review is to integrate the findings of several papers. You should not simply summarize one paper at a time. Rather, you should synthesize the findings to the extent possible, by determining where there is agreement among papers versus where there are contrasting findings, etc.

III. Section 2 (put subtitle here)
   A. First point (Davis 1978)
   B. Second point (Hilton et al. 1998)
   C. etc.

IV. Section 3 (put subtitle here)
   A. First point (Brown et al. 2001)
   B. Second point (Carpenter et al. 1984)
   C. etc.

V. Conclusion/future research
   A. Major conclusions include….
   B. Future research needs include….
ASSIGNMENT #4: OUTLINE FOR WRITING A LITERATURE REVIEW  
Due April 1st, 2016

1. *Introduction* (without this heading)  
Write an introduction paragraph for your review. This paragraph  
a. states the topic and inquiry questions for this review  
b. tells the reader specific information on how many articles you reviewed and how you sorted the articles into common themes based on findings (results).

2. *Body* (without this heading)  
Before you begin this section, be sure that you have sorted your articles into different themes based on the articles’ findings (sometimes called results). After you sort your articles, it is important to give your sorted groups a descriptive name. The names of the sorted articles will become your headings for each of the paragraphs that you write in the body of your review. The body of your literature review will include:

   a. Theme 1: a paragraph or several paragraphs that describe the first theme that you identified and compare, contrast and/or connect the articles you’ve selected.  
   b. Theme 2: a paragraph or several paragraphs that describes the second theme that you identified and compare, contrast and/or connect the articles you’ve selected.  
   c. Theme 3: a paragraph or several paragraphs that describes the third theme that you identified and compare, contrast and/or connect the articles you’ve selected.  
   d. Theme 4: a paragraph or several paragraphs that describes the third theme that you identified and compare, contrast and/or connect the articles you’ve selected.  
   e. Theme 5: a paragraph or several paragraphs that describes the third theme that you identified and compare, contrast and/or connect the articles you’ve selected.

3. *Summary*  
This is the last paragraph of your literature review. In this paragraph, it is important to briefly summarize the main findings from the articles that you reviewed and to point out how your inquiry questions were answered or not answered, what the gap is (what if my questions are all answered – you then need to identify new inquiries so that you will contribute to the field).

4. *References*  
This is the last pages of your review. It serves as a listing of all references that you mentioned in your paper (both draft 1 and draft 2). Please make sure that only references cited in your drafts will be listed here. Other references that you earlier found/read but not cited will be listed in your bibliography. Please use APA
style when completing this list.

5. Works Cited
   This is your reference list (those cited in your paper) plus those that you have found/read but are not cited in the paper. Please also use APA style when completing this list and use alphabetical order.

ASSIGNMENT #5: FINAL PAPER
   Due May 13, 2016

The final paper must be submitted in MLA format. It must have all the sections to receive full credit (introduction, 5 subsections, conclusion, and a reference sheet). Make sure to submit as many drafts as needed for edits before turning in the final paper. Below is the rubric for the Final Literature Review Paper.

LITERATURE PAPER -- EVALUATION CRITERIA

Content
   Background information/introduction ______ (8)
   Paper objectives clearly stated ______ (4)
   Content/quality of the summary/synthesis ______ (24)
   Conclusions ______ (7)
   Future research ______ (7)

Organization
   Organization of the sections ______ (10)
   Proper use of sources
      - Proper NUMBER of citations ______ (8)
      - References correctly cited WITHIN the paper ______ (8)
      - Correctness of literature cited section ______ (4)

Format/technical style
   Sentence/paragraph structure ______ (12)
   Correct paper format ______ (8)

TOTAL: _______ ( /100)