# Table of Contents

Preface  
Acknowledgments  
About the Authors  
1. The Literature Review Process: Getting Started  
   - The Purpose of a Literature Review  
   - The Literature Review Definition  
   - The Literature Review Process  
   - Inquiry: The Necessary Precondition  
   - Pack Wisely Before You Begin  
   - Tips  
   - Summary  
   - Checklist  
2. Selecting the Topic: Everyday Interest to Research Interest  
   - Introduction: Selecting a Research Topic  
   - Step 1: Choosing a Research Interest  
   - Exercises  
   - Researcher Bias  
   - Step 2: Specifying a Research Interest  
   - Focusing the Interest  
   - Selecting a Vantage Point  
   - Reflection: The Key to Interest Selection  
   - Step 3: From Research Interest to Research Topic  
   - Accessing the Research Conversation: Formalizing the Research Topic  
   - Tips  
   - Summary  
   - Checklist  
3. Searching the Literature: Tasks and Tools  
   - Introduction: Searching the Literature  
   - Discovering the Literature to Review  
   - Conducting a Literature Search  
   - Previewing the Data: Scanning the Literature  
   - Using the Internet  
   - Managing Your Data  
   - Selecting the Data: Skimming the Literature  
   - Mapping: An Overview  
   - Mapping by Core Concept  
   - Mapping by Author Contribution  
   - Refining the Topic  
   - Expanding the Topic  
   - Tips  
   - Summary  
   - Checklist  
4. Developing the Argument: Making the Case for the Literature Review  
   - Introduction: Arguments and the Literature Review  
   - Building the Case for the Literature Review  
   - Arguments  
   - Evaluating the Basic Parts of an Argument  
   - Claims  
   - Types of Claims  
   - Acceptability of Claims  
   - Data Versus Evidence  
   - Data Quality  
   - Data Relevance  
   - Qualifying the Claim  
   - Warranting: Building the Rationale for the Argument  
   - Multiple Claims Arguments  
   - Tips  
   - Summary  
   - Checklist  
5. Doing the Literature Survey: Building the Argument of Discovery  
   - Introduction: The Next Steps  
   - The Survey of the Literature  
   - Stage 1: Assembly  
   - Assembling the Data  
   - Recording the Data  
   - Stage 2: Synthesis  
   - Synthesizing the Information, Building Evidence  
   - Integrating the Data, Building Claims  
   - Reasoning Patterns  
   - Stage 3: Analyzing, Building the Argument of Discovery  
   - Complex Reasoning
Divergent Reasoning
Comparative Reasoning
Building the Discovery Argument: An Example
Mapping the Argument of Discovery
Analyzing the Argument
Tips
Summary
Checklist

6. The Literature Critique: Interpreting the Research
   The Literature Critique
   Implicative Reasoning: The Literature Critique
   The Two Arguments
   Argument Patterns
   Backing
   Fallacies
   The Case Is Everything
   Tips
   Summary
   Checklist

7. Writing the Review: Write, Audit, Edit
   The Writing Process: An Overview
   Writing to Understand: An Overview
   Exploratory Writing: Creating Writing Readiness
   Exploratory Writing: The Literature Review
   Outlining: An Overview
   Some Common Outlining Mistakes
   Outlining the Literature Review
   The Introduction to the Literature Review
   The Body of the Literature Review
   The Background of the Study
   The Thesis Argument
   The Summation of the Literature Review
   Auditing and Editing the Outline
   Tips on Writing
   Drafts
   The Preliminary Draft: An Overview
   The Preliminary Draft: The Write
   Tips on Writing the Early Drafts
   Style Manuals and Author's Guides
   Preliminary Draft: The Audit
   Preliminary Draft: The Edit
   Writing to Be Understood
   The First Draft
   The First Draft Audit: The Outside Review
   The Second and Third Drafts: Polishing the Work
   The Second Draft and Beyond: Writing the Polished Work
   The Polished Draft Audit: The Referred Review
   The Final Tip
   Summary
   References
   Index