General UQ policy: [https://ppl.app.uq.edu.au/content/4.60.05-research-higher-degree-candidature-progression-and-development](https://ppl.app.uq.edu.au/content/4.60.05-research-higher-degree-candidature-progression-and-development)

See your School's website for a more detailed statement of what is required of you.
Generic Mind Map of Focus Questions for a Literature Review

A map for when you have defined your research question.

A literature review is an exposition of the existing knowledge and reasoning which led you to believe that what you did was worth doing in the way that you did it, written so as to convince the reader of these things.

How test?  Do any of these need testing?

How determine if better?  Are there possible barriers to implementing these “better” solutions?

How inform methodological approaches?  Ideas on how to overcome?

In what ways are these potentially better?

Where might we look for “better” answers / solutions?

What theories help us understand the issue of X?  “Better” in what sense?

What do we know about the causes of X?

③ What theories help us understand the issue of X?

⑤ What theories help us understand the issue of X?

How can the issue of X be better addressed?

⑦ How address?

What new technologies / techniques could be tried?

Why shouldn’t we be satisfied with current approaches / what’s been done already?

What are the costs of not doing anything / benefits of addressing deficiencies?

How might these be addressed?

Empirical / theoretical justification?

What issues still need to be addressed?

Justification of hypotheses

① Why is the issue of X significant / important?  Who is it important to?

A

Motivations?

Advantages / contributions?

Disadvantages / weaknesses / deficiencies?

B

C

② How is it currently being addressed? / has it been addressed?

④ Why is the issue of X significant / important?  Who is it important to?

Reason A

Reason B

Reason C

The map from here would proceed very much like it does in this section

⑥ Where might we look for “better” answers / solutions?

How might these be filled?

What gaps in knowledge / understanding are holding up progress?

④ Look for follow-on questions and links.

Questions and map can be developed in any order. Once map is complete, can add numbers indicating a logical order in which to write up the map.

(Note that the placement of numbers on this map is indicative only, not necessarily an order which will work in all circumstances.)

③ Identify questions which flow from each of (2) and the research question as a whole. Generic questions to explore include:

- Motivations for research: (i) significance of area; (ii) gap / deficiency in existing knowledge
- Sources of new ideas / hypotheses
- Theory to guide where to look for answers.

② Underline each key term / concept / phrase.

① Develop a clear and complete statement of your research question.

Constructing the map

These are methodological issues which may require their own lit review and mind map to address.

③ Why is the issue of X significant / important?  Who is it important to?

⑤ What theories help us understand the issue of X?