

Examples Of A Literature For A Dissertation

Abstract of dissertation entitled

Outlander and the Female Gaze:
A Feminist Study on Gender and Body Representations

Submitted by

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This research posits that the television series *Outlander* utilizes the female gaze to create gender and body representations that espouse feminist ideologies. Feminism has been a brewing force within popular culture since films and television are two mainstream mediums through which ideologies are spread. The male gaze proposed by Laura Mulvey propels a patriarchal subconscious that effects gender representations on screen to maintain an unbalanced relationship of male/dominant and female/passive. As a critically acclaimed series, *Outlander* goes beyond the clichés of romance and historical television by weaving a narrative from the female gaze that centres on female empowerment and inclusivity to bring forth a herstory that resonates with the feminine mystique along with other oppressions that women still struggle with today. In three chapters, this dissertation discusses thematically and visually from the characterisation of the heroine Claire Beauchamp as a woman of substance, the complex representations of female bonding, to the nature of the female gaze and how it channels nudity and sex into televisual pleasure. The study concludes that the female gaze enables *Outlander* to express the complexity of womanhood by illustrating a relatable struggle with balancing the work and domestic spheres, as well as exploring female heterosexual desire with a welcoming attitude. From a feminist angle, *Outlander* stands as an influential global cultural phenomenon that echoes with the gender situations nowadays as a fictional yet relevant and popular romance television series.

World Count: 233

Examples of a literature for a dissertation are essential components of academic research that provide context, support arguments, and highlight gaps in existing scholarship. A well-structured literature review not only showcases the researcher's understanding of the field but also sets the stage for the original contributions made in the dissertation. In this article, we will explore different examples of literature that can be used in a dissertation, analyze their significance, and provide guidance on how to effectively incorporate them into your work.

Understanding the Role of Literature in a Dissertation

A literature review serves multiple purposes in a dissertation:

- Contextualizing Research: It allows the researcher to place their study within the existing body of knowledge.
- Identifying Gaps: It helps to pinpoint areas that require further exploration or have not been adequately addressed.
- Supporting Arguments: A comprehensive review provides evidence to back the researcher's claims and hypotheses.
- Establishing Credibility: It demonstrates the researcher's familiarity with the field and enhances the overall credibility of the dissertation.

Types of Literature for a Dissertation

When compiling literature for a dissertation, researchers can draw from various types of sources. Here are some examples:

1. Scholarly Articles

Scholarly articles are peer-reviewed publications that provide in-depth studies on specific topics. They are crucial for:

- Offering current research findings and methodological approaches.
- Presenting theoretical frameworks that can be applied or challenged in your study.
- Highlighting debates within the field.

Example: If your dissertation focuses on environmental policy, you might reference articles from journals like "Environmental Politics" or "Global Environmental Change."

2. Books and Monographs

Books, particularly those published by academic presses, can provide comprehensive coverage of a topic. They may include:

- Historical perspectives.
- Extensive literature reviews.
- Theoretical frameworks that can be utilized in your research.

Example: For a dissertation on literary theory, foundational texts such as "Literary Theory: An Introduction" by Terry Eagleton can be pivotal.

3. Dissertations and Theses

Previous dissertations and theses can offer valuable insights into methodologies and literature reviews that have been effective in your area of study. They can also reveal:

- How other researchers have framed their questions.
- Gaps in research that your study could address.

Example: Accessing databases like ProQuest Dissertations & Theses can provide a wealth of information tailored to your specific research interests.

4. Conference Proceedings

Conference proceedings often contain cutting-edge research that has not yet been published in journals. They are beneficial for:

- Understanding current trends and emerging topics in your field.
- Networking with other researchers and practitioners.

Example: Attending or reviewing proceedings from conferences in your discipline, such as the Modern Language Association (MLA) conference, can yield fresh perspectives.

5. Government and NGO Reports

Reports published by governmental bodies or non-governmental organizations (NGOs) can provide empirical data and policy analysis. These are especially useful for research related to:

- Social issues.
- Public health.
- Environmental concerns.

Example: For a dissertation on public health, referring to reports from the World Health Organization (WHO) or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) can lend authority to your arguments.

6. Literature Reviews

Existing literature reviews can serve as concise summaries of the research landscape in your area of interest. They are helpful for:

- Gaining an overview of major themes and findings.
- Identifying key scholars and foundational works in your field.

Example: Searching for literature reviews in databases like Google Scholar can help you quickly grasp the state of research on topics like climate change or educational psychology.

7. Media Articles and Blogs

While not always scholarly, reputable media articles and blogs can provide contemporary examples and case studies. They can be useful for:

- Illustrating the real-world implications of academic theories.
- Providing anecdotal evidence that supports your arguments.

Example: If your dissertation addresses the impact of social media on communication, citing recent articles from major publications like "The New York Times" or academic blogs can enrich your analysis.

Organizing Your Literature Review

A well-organized literature review is crucial for clarity and coherence. Here are steps to effectively organize your literature:

1. Thematic Organization

Group literature into themes or categories based on commonalities. This approach helps to structure your argument logically.

- Example Themes:
- Historical context
- Theoretical frameworks
- Current debates
- Methodologies

2. Chronological Organization

This method involves organizing literature by publication date, allowing you to show how research has evolved over time.

- Pros: Highlights trends and developments.
- Cons: May overlook thematic connections.

3. Methodological Organization

Categorizing literature by research methods used can be beneficial, especially in fields that employ diverse methodologies.

- Qualitative Studies

- Quantitative Studies
- Mixed Methods Research

4. Conceptual Framework Organization

If your dissertation is guided by a specific theoretical framework, you can organize literature based on the concepts and theories that support your research.

Best Practices for Writing a Literature Review

When composing your literature review, consider the following best practices:

- Be Critical: Don't just summarize studies; analyze their strengths and weaknesses.
- Synthesize: Connect the dots between different pieces of literature to demonstrate relationships and contradictions.
- Stay Focused: Ensure that your literature review directly relates to your research questions and objectives.
- Use Proper Citation: Adhering to a consistent citation style (APA, MLA, Chicago, etc.) is crucial for academic integrity.

Conclusion

In summary, examples of a literature for a dissertation encompass a variety of sources, including scholarly articles, books, theses, and reports. A well-crafted literature review not only contextualizes your research but also establishes its significance within the existing body of knowledge. By organizing your literature thoughtfully and following best practices in writing, you can create a compelling narrative that highlights the importance of your study and its contributions to the field. As you embark on your dissertation journey, remember that a thorough literature review is not just a preliminary step; it is a foundational element that shapes the trajectory of your research.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are some common examples of literature that can be used for a dissertation?

Common examples include classic novels, contemporary fiction, poetry collections, critical essays, and literary theories that explore themes relevant to your research.

How can I choose literature examples for my dissertation

topic?

Choose literature that directly relates to your thesis statement, incorporates relevant themes, and offers critical perspectives. Consider both primary texts and secondary sources.

What role does primary literature play in a dissertation?

Primary literature provides original texts that you analyze, critique, or interpret, forming the foundation of your argument and supporting your research findings.

Can I include non-fiction works in my literature examples for a dissertation?

Yes, including non-fiction works such as biographies, essays, and historical texts can provide context and support for your analysis of literary texts.

How do I properly cite literature examples in my dissertation?

Use the citation style required by your institution (e.g., MLA, APA, Chicago) to properly attribute the literature examples in your dissertation, ensuring you include all necessary publication details.

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