The literature review portion of the master’s thesis is designed to:
(1) familiarize you with essential background on your topic;
(2) familiarize the reader of your thesis with what has already been written on the topic;
(3) demonstrate that the study you intend to undertake is original, that is, has not already been done; and
(4) show where the study you will perform fits into the general literature in the field, that is, what gap it will fill in the relevant body of knowledge.

A literature review is not an annotated bibliography, nor should it be just a series of disjointed paragraphs, each summarizing a different article or book. The literature you identify must be read, summarized, discussed, synthesized and analyzed, not just listed. It will probably be necessary for you to categorize the literature you survey to make sense of it for yourself and your readers. In other words, you will need to identify the key issues or questions that will be part of your thesis and then structure your literature review around those issues or questions.

Segments of the literature review often are introduced by statements such as:

Several authors have contended that privatization will mean higher costs and less access on the Internet (Brown 2005; Sedov 2006).

Then within that paragraph you would pull out what other authors have said on that particular issue:

Taking the contrary view, Maloff (2006), has argued that that fierce competition has the Internet on the edge of a new wave of cost reductions.

This would lead you into another point of view. Then you would move on to the next issue. (Please see Attachment 1 for more tips).

At the end of the literature review you should identify what remains to be done in this area, that is, what hasn't been written yet, and state briefly how your study will help fill that gap in the literature.

Do not rely on only one method for identifying relevant literature. Certainly you will want to use computerized databases, such as EBSCO, Science Direct, etc., to help you identify appropriate literature, but do not forget to read the references in items you find and to check bibliographies in books. These can be invaluable sources of other relevant materials.

All literature reviews must be carefully referenced. The School of Management of the SPb State University uses the author-date system of source citation, also known as Chicago. Sources are cited in the text of the thesis, in parentheses, by the author’s last (family) name, the publication date of the work cited, and a page number if needed. Full details appear in a single, comprehensive reference list at the end of the thesis.

The general rules for the author-date system are set forth in The Chicago Manual of Style, the standard manual for academic editors. The SOM version of the author-date system is based on the 15th edition of The Chicago Manual of Style (Attachments 2, 3).
Traditionally, the presence of incomplete contracts is seen as posing incentive problems (Hart 1995).

Recent management research has begun to explore dynamic capability … (Teece et al. 2002; Teece and Pisano 2004).

According to Kletzer (2001), two-thirds of workers displaced from import-competing industries who found new employment earned less on the new job.

For example, Flood and Taylor (1996) show that long-run data support …, as denoted in Box (2) in Figure 1.

Goldberg (2002) examines a panel of BIS data on … investigates the role of … argues that … claims that … comments that … has noted that … mentions … focuses his attention on …

Berg and others (2000) looked at … report similar results and suggest that … challenge … analyze … propose … estimate the 2006 cost to consumers at $24 billion, or around $1 million per “job saved” in the industries.

As Haldane and Taylor (2003) clearly point out:

> IMF facilities can usefully be used as a kind of insurance policy. […] Liquidity crisis represents a real hazard that such insurance can help mitigate (p. 122).

In particular, like Goldberg (2002), we find that … or/

We find that … (as found by Dages et al. 2000; Peek and Rosengren 2000; and Goldberg 2002).

Lane and Milesi-Ferretti (2004) explore the theoretical link between … provide evidence that … discuss … survey the literature on … use a consensus classification to check …

The study by Bailliu, Lafrance, and Perraut (2002) is noteworthy in that it combines …
In a recent paper, Mishkin (2000) enumerates …

Studies such as Van Rijckeghem and Weder (2003) have shown that …

Research in the 1990s (for example, Ramey and Ramey 1995) reached a conclusion that …

Recent research also considers various channels … (for example, Mendoza 1997; and Turnovsky and Fatas 2000).

In addition, Lucas’s (1987) work suggested that …

The concept has been recently developed by Calvo and Talvi (2003).

Ghosh and others (1997) is an early example where this distinction is made.

There is a large empirical literature studying the role of … . For example, using a variety of methods, several researches, including Sachs and Warner (1995), Frankel (1999) and Dollar and Kraay (2002), show that …

Berg and Kruger (2003), Baldwin (2003), and Winters (2004) provide extensive surveys of the literature on trade and growth.


His 1982 book *The Slave Power* is still …

He quoted the *North British Review* (February 1992, 142), saying “… .“

As described in Andrew C. Revkin’s “NASA Curbs Comments on Ice Disaster Movie” (*New York Times* 2004), “… .”

For industrial countries, Eichengreen, Rose, and Wyplosz (1996) use an alternative measure …

Previous work (for example, Lane and Milesi-Ferretti 2004) has not found a systematic effect of …

The well-known analyses of Balassa (1964) and Samuelson (1964) provide an appealing explanation of …

Following Canzoneri, Cumby, and Diba (1999), we use restrictions on … to derive a simple form of the relation…

The argument that … is made in Palmer (2000) and Peek and Rosengren (2000).

This argument is made by Porter (2004).

Analysts, such as Kuznets, Burns, and others thought that … (Kuznets 1961; Colm 1962; and Samuelson 1992).
The Ramey and Ramey (1995) results are based on a data set that …

Evidence suggested that … … (Berg and Pattillo 1999a).

In light of this research, IMF staff has implemented various models to predict …, as described in Berg and others (2000).

Some discussion of the role of … can be found in IMF (2002) and in Berg and others (2000).

For a review of recent developments in this literature, see Abiad (2003).

… was the model of Kaminsky, Lizondo, and Reinhart (1998).

The second model assumes that …, as in Armington’s (1969) model.

While the basic data set we use is the latest version of the Penn World Tables (Heston, Summers, and Aten 2002), we supplement that with data from various other sources, including … .

Most of the dates of … are taken from Bekaert, Harvey, and Lundblat (2002).

The first test (IPS), based on Im, Persan, and Shin (2003), indicate that …

A chronology of crises in the region was obtained from Caprio and Klingebiel (1999) and Bordo and others (2001).

Growth and interest rate figures come from the *International Financial Statistics (IFS)*, published by the International Monetary Fund.

The credit ratings used are those reported by *Institutional Investor* magazine.

This ratio is calculated from the BIS’s *Consolidated Banking Statistics*.

These figures, which include …, come from Salomon Smith Barney (2000).

There were about 21 million people thrown on a job market of about 60 million including the armed forces and the defense establishment (U.S. Bureau of the Census 2003, Table 220).
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**Or several contributions to the same book:**


**Russian authors:**


| **Article in a journal:**  
| **Same author, same year:**  
| (Shirokova 2005b) | ______. 2005b. Theory O and theory E as organizational change strategies. [In Russian.] *Management in Russia and Abroad* 1:61-68. |
| **Article in a popular magazine:**  
| **Newspaper article:**  
| Your text giving the “Title of the Article” here (Sankt-Peterburgskie Vedomosti, 5 April 2006, A7) | News items from daily newspapers are rarely listed in a reference list, unless the newspaper is referred to several times and constitutes a substantial part of the documentation. If the newspaper citation needs to be included in the reference list, follow this model: |
| **Unsigned articles:**  
| **Article from a full-text database:**  
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Federation of American Scientists. Resolution comparison: Reading license plates and headlines. [http://www.petetownshend.co.uk/petet_bio.html](http://www.petetownshend.co.uk/petet_bio.html).

Ferber, R. 1971. Family decision-making and economic behavior. Faculty Working Paper 35, College of Commerce and Business Administration, Univ. of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.


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________. 2005c. Theory O and theory E as organizational change strategies. [In Russian.] Management in Russia and Abroad 1:61-68.


