

SO YOU'VE DECIDED TO WRITE A REVIEW PAPER

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WHY WRITE A REVIEW PAPER?

- Articulate your position/opinion on some important issue
 - Review key evidence that supports your position/opinion
 - Acknowledge critiques/weaknesses and reject them
- Career development: summarise/highlight your accomplishments
- **Assess current state of the evidence**
 - Systematic review
 - Meta-analysis

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WHAT IS A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW?

An observational study of the literature

OBSERVATIONAL STUDY

- Research question
- Sample participants
- Collect data from participants
- Analysis

SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

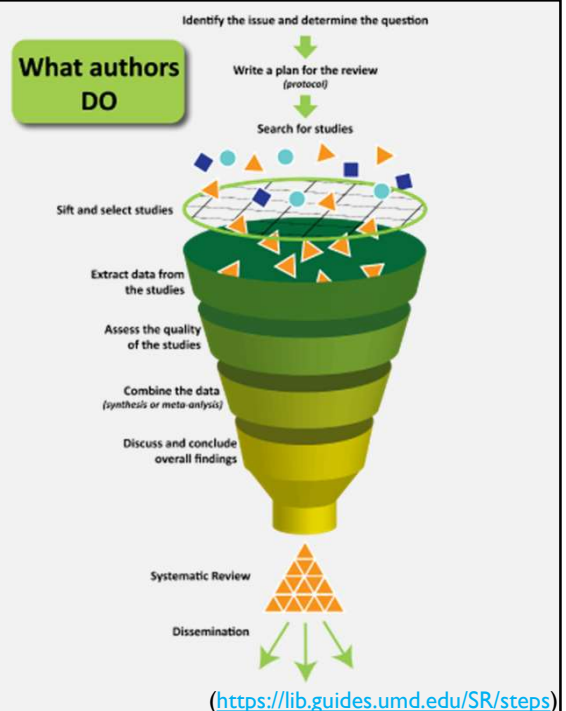
- Research question
- Sample papers
- Collect data from papers
- (Meta) Analysis

A systematic and replicable analysis of the literature

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SYSTEMATIC REVIEW: THE STEPS

1. Set research question and define scope: search string
2. Identify studies
3. Screen studies
4. Read, summarize studies
5. Analyse studies
6. Write your review



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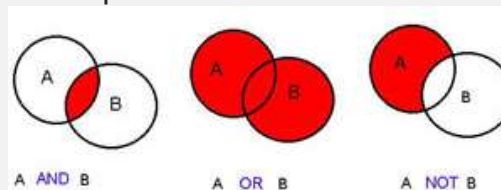
STEP 1: RESEARCH QUESTION

1. Significance: Topic should have high theoretical and/or practical significance
2. Novelty: No recent reviews of this topic
3. Feasibility:
 - Clear and answerable research question(s)
 - Appropriate scope/breadth

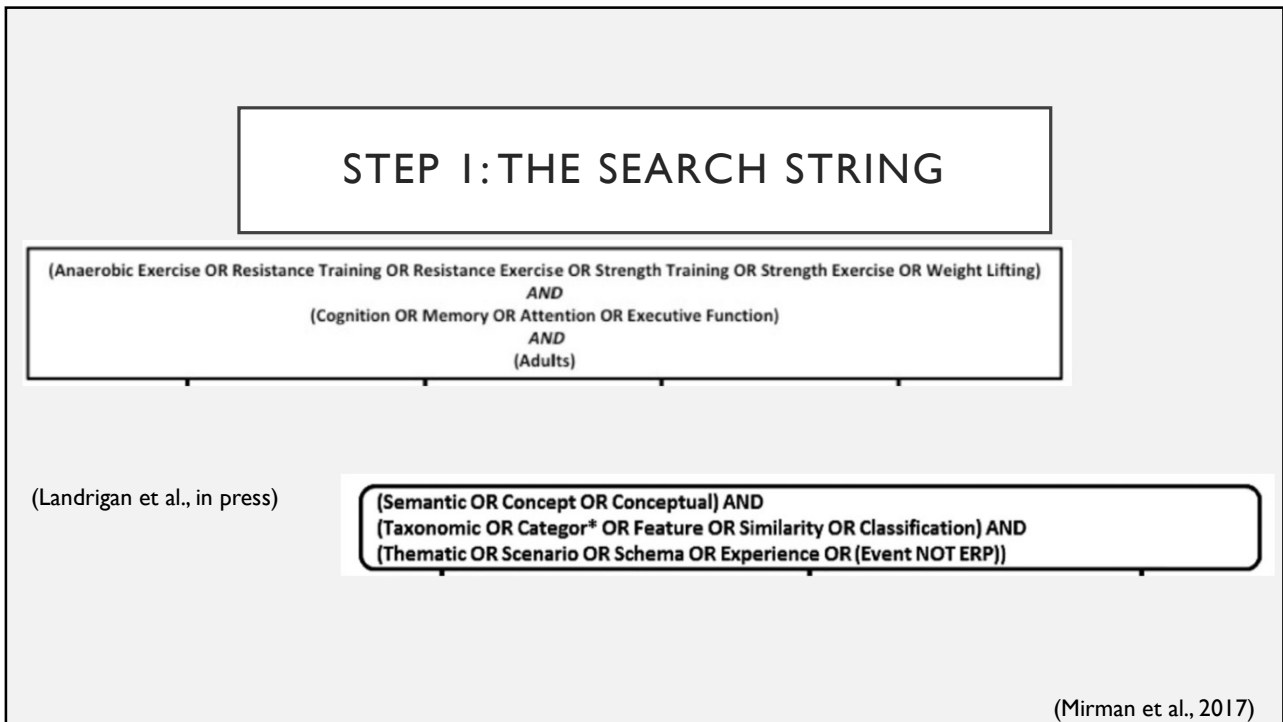
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STEP 1: THE SEARCH STRING

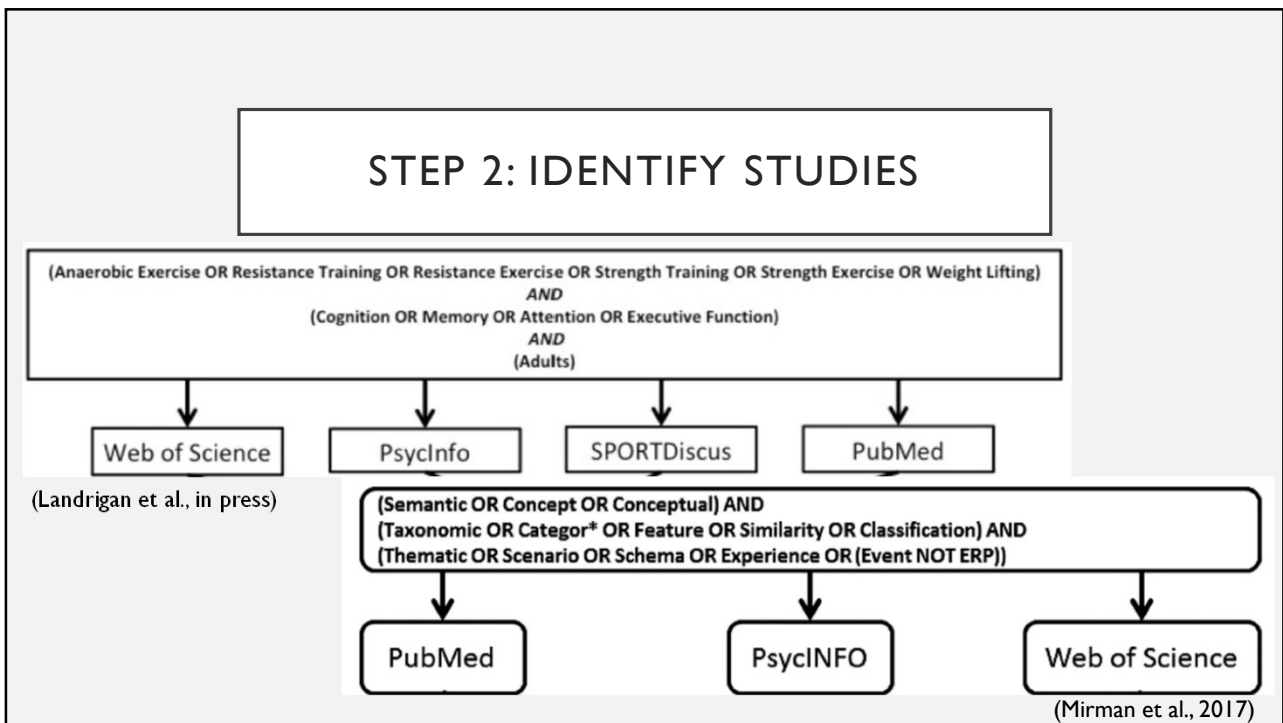
- Translate research question into a search
 - Key words
 - Include (nearly) equivalent different terms (synonyms)
 - Truncation and wildcards: e.g., adolescents / adolescence → adolescen* (or adolscen\$ in some databases)
 - Use Boolean operators to combine search terms: AND, OR, NOT



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STEP 2: IDENTIFY STUDIES

- Search multiple databases: they are often complementary
 - PsycInfo: comprehensive coverage of psychology
 - Medline/Pubmed: comprehensive coverage of biomedical journals
 - Web of Science: general science
 - Other domain-specific databases
- Access through MyEd:
 - MyEd → Library: Search and access library resources → Databases A-Z

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STEP 2: IDENTIFY STUDIES

- Download / import results to a reference manager
 - Mendeley: <https://www.mendeley.com>
 - Zotero: <https://www.zotero.org/>
 - [Not-free options: RefWorks, EndNote]
- What reference managers can do:
 - Connect article .pdfs to reference entries within your reference library
 - Organise references (tags, notes, sub-folders)
 - Insert references and reference lists into essays/dissertations
 - Automatically format in-text citations and reference lists (check for errors)

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STEP 3: SCREEN STUDIES

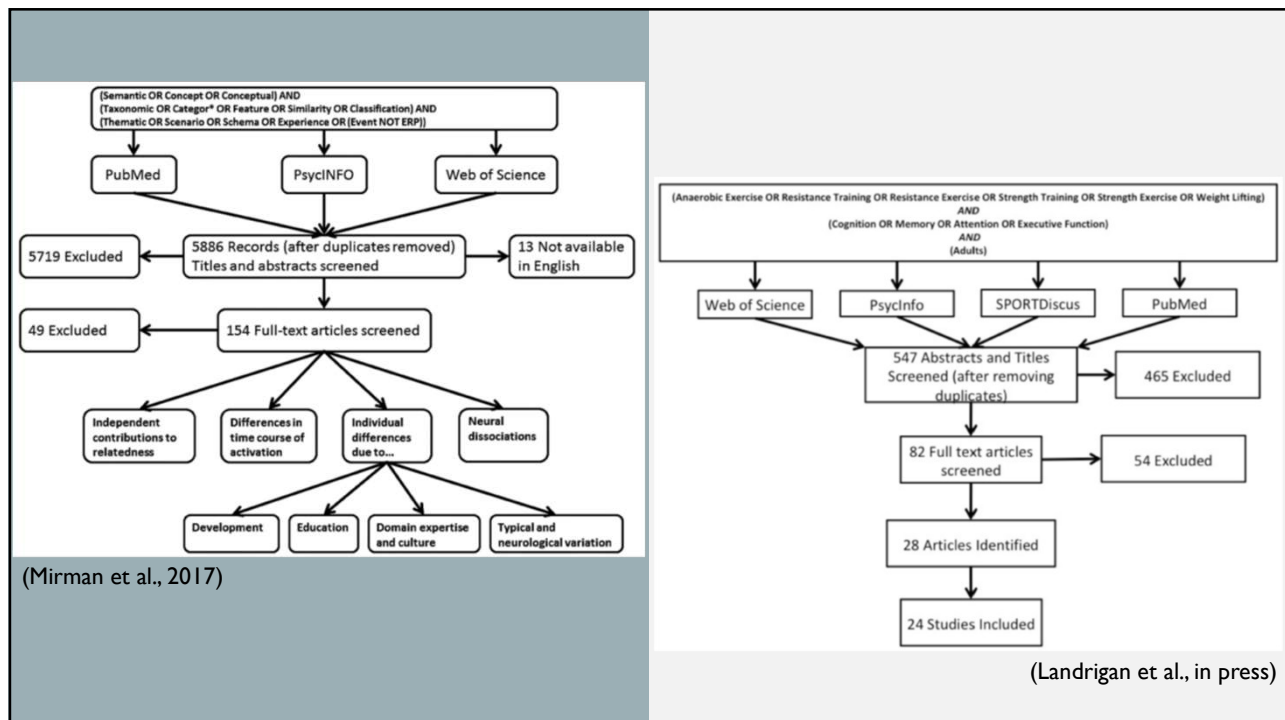
1. Remove duplicates

Ideally done by two independent reviewers to ensure reliable application of criteria

2. Inclusion/Exclusion criteria

- Relevant to topic (exclude false positive hits)
- Empirical papers reporting new data (not review papers)
- Participant sample?
- Language of paper?
- Etc.

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RECORD-KEEPING

- The search results are your data, treat them with the same care and rigour as other kinds of study data
- Some key elements
 - Search string, databases searched, and dates of searches
 - Number of records returned
 - Number of records excluded at each screening stage (duplicates, title/abstract, full-text)
 - Table of excluded studies with exclusion stage/reason

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STEP 4: READ, SUMMARIZE STUDIES

1. Make a table (spreadsheet) of all included studies
 - Reference info
 - Key details: sample size, method (outcome var, manipulation), etc.
 - Sub-topic (for organisation)
 - **Effect size(s)**
2. While reading each: Read and write a 1-page summary
 - Focus on methods and results

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Table 1 Study characteristics

Study	Cognitive health	Mn Age	Gender	Exp N	Cnt N	Duration	Frequency	Control type
Anderson-Hanley et al. (2010)	Healthy	72.1	Mix	16	16	4	2-3 × week	Passive
Ansai and Rebelatto (2015)	Impairment	82.8	Mix	23	23	16	3 × week	Passive
Best et al. (2015)	Healthy	69.4	Female	46	42	52	2 × week	Stretch and balance
Cassilhas et al. (2007) (High)	Healthy	68.4	Male	20	23	24	3 × week	Warm-up and stretch
Cherup et al. (2018)	Healthy	72.2	Mixed	30	7	14	3 × week	Passive
Chupel et al. (2017)	Impairment	83.5	Female	16	17	28	2 inc to 3 × week	Passive
David et al. (2015)	Impairment	59	Mix	20	18	96	2 × week	Stretch and balance
Davis et al. (2013)	Impairment	74.1	Female	28	28	24	2 × week	Stretch and balance
Fallah et al. (2013)	Healthy	69.4	Female	106	49	24	2 × week	Stretch and Balance
Fernandez-Gonzalo et al. (2016)	Impairment	61.2	Mix	12	14	12	2 × week	Passive
Fiatarone Singh et al. (2014)/Mavros et al. (2017)/Suo et al. (2016)	Impairment	70.1	Mix	22	27	72	2 dec to 3 × week	Passive
Fragala et al. (2014)	Healthy	70.64	Mix	13	12	6	2 × week	Passive
Goekint et al. (2010)	Healthy	20.1	Mix	15	8	10	3 × week	Passive
Iranidou and Taheri (2018)	Impairment	54.9	Males	15	15	9	3 × week	Passive
Iuliano et al. (2015) / Iuliano et al. (2017)	Healthy	65.8	Mix	20	20	12	3 × week	Passive
Komulainen et al. (2010)	Healthy	66.5	Mix	220	226	24	2 or 3 × week (individualized)	Passive
Lachman et al. (2006)	Healthy	75.32	Mix	102	108	24	3 × week	Passive
Liu-Ambrose et al. (2012) (twice week)	Healthy	68.9	Female	15	17	84	2 × week	Stretch and balance
Nagamatsu et al. (2013)/ten Brinke et al. (2015)	Impairment	73.9	Female	25	25	24	2 × week	Stretch and balance
Perrig-Chiello et al. (1998)	Healthy	73.2	Mix	23	23	8	1 × week	Passive
Smolarek et al. (2016)	Healthy	65.87	Female	29	8	12	3 × week	Passive
Venturelli et al. (2010)	Impairment	83.3	Female	15	15	12	3 × week	Passive
Yoon et al. (2016) (High)	Impairment	75	Female	14	7	12	2 × week	Stretch and balance
Yoon and Song (2018)	Impairment	73.9	Mixed	20	23	16	3 × week	Stretch and balance

Cognitive health cognitive health of participants, *Mn Age* mean age of participants, *Exp N* number of participants in the experimental group, *Cnt N* number of participants in the control group, *Duration* number of weeks of intervention, *Frequency* frequency of intervention

(Landrigan et al., in press)

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RESOURCES

- Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) : <http://prisma-statement.org/PRISMAStatement/>
 - Consider registering your systematic review on PROSPERO: <https://www.crd.york.ac.uk/prospero/>
- Siddaway, A. P., Wood, A. M., & Hedges, L. V. (2019). How to do a systematic review: A best practice guide for conducting and reporting narrative reviews, meta-analyses, and meta-syntheses. *Annual Review of Psychology*, 70, 747-770. <https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev-psych-010418-102803>
- UMD Library Systematic Review Guide: <https://lib.guides.umd.edu/SR/steps>
- Meta-analysis of fMRI data:
 - BrainMap and (Ginger)ALE: <http://brainmap.org/>
 - NeuroSynth: <https://neurosynth.org/>

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