

BUS 230: Business and Economics Research and Communication

In-class Exercise: Dissecting a Literature Review

Instructor: James Murray

Spring 2012

Due in D2L Dropbox by Sunday, February 19, 2012 at 11:59pm

Purpose: A literature review is an essential component of the introduction to your research paper, whose purpose is to 1) introduce your reader to relevant background knowledge on the topic and 2) motivate your research question by identifying some aspect of the topic that is important to be answered. Importantly, a literature review should “tell a story.” That is, it should set up and motivate your particular research project. With each citation, you should be building up to what your research question is and why it is important. In this assignment you will dissect a literature review in a published paper and see with what purpose each citation is for, and describe the story surrounding the literature review.

Learning Outcomes:

- LO-4: Develop the ability to effectively communicate research results both written and orally.
- CBA LO-1B: Create well-written business reports

Directions:

1. Find the following article on living on campus and academic performance:

De Araujo, P., and Murray, J. (2010) “Estimating the Effects of Dormitory Living on Student Performance.” *Economics Bulletin*. 30(1).

Estimating the effects of dormitory living on student performance

2. Find the section, “Related Literature”
3. There are six paragraphs, each with a point. For each paragraph, summarize the point in a single sentence.
4. For each paragraph, find one or two pieces of evidence (cited research) the the point made in the paragraph. State the citation and what the paper found.