

09- Practicalities of research: IRBs and teamwork

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Engineering &
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Today's class

- IRBs
- Literature review
- Project proposal
- Teamwork
- Team building exercise

IRB process

- Is it research? Are there human subjects?
- Full review vs. expedited vs. exempt
- Fill out and submit protocol
 - Include all study materials (e.g., surveys)
 - Include recruitment text and/or poster
 - Leave plenty of time (submit by March 6 or earlier)

Writing a literature review

- What is a literature review?
 - A critical summary of what has been published on a topic
 - What is already known about the topic
 - Strengths and weaknesses of previous studies
 - Often part of the introduction or a section of a research paper, proposal, or thesis
- A literature review should
 - be organized around and related directly to your research question
 - synthesize results into a summary of what is and is not known
 - identify areas of controversy in the literature
 - formulate questions that need further research

Dena Taylor and Margaret Procter. 2004. The literature review: A few tips on conducting it.

<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/specific-types-of-writing/literature-review>

Literature review do's + don'ts

- Don't create a list of article summaries or quotes
- Do point out what is most relevant about each article to your paper
- Do compare and contrast the articles you review
- Do highlight controversies raised or questions left unanswered by the articles you review
- Do take a look at some examples of literature reviews or related work sections in papers assigned for this class before you try to create one yourself

Project proposal due Feb 22

- ~1 page
- Describe the system you propose to design or evaluate
- Discuss what you hope to learn from your user study and/or the hypotheses you plan to test
- Provide an overview of your preliminary user study plan
 - what types of tasks will you have participants do?
 - what types of people will you recruit?
 - will you use a finished software product, prototype, paper prototype, etc. in your user study?
 - will this be a between-subjects or within-subjects study?
 - will you conduct your study online, in a lab, with paper surveys?

Team work

- What are some effective strategies for working in teams?

Effective teamwork

- Good communication
- Timeline with deadlines
- Regular meetings
- Divide up responsibilities (but help teammates when they need it)

Team building

- You have 30 minutes to work in your teams and produce the following deliverables:
 - A short name for your team
 - A team logo
 - A team slogan
 - A 1-minute advertisement for your project
 - Everyone on your team must say something
 - You may use slides and/or chart paper and anything you have with you as props
 - Display your team name, logo, and slogan