



LITERATURE REVIEW

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- Often appears at the beginning of a piece of academic writing, but not always.
- May be incorporated into other chapters, such as an introduction.

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- It demonstrates that you know how to critically evaluate other academic work.
- It demonstrates that you understand how your work relates to other academic research.

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- A successful Literature Review has a firm idea of the research problem, and an understanding of the research framework.
- Conduct preliminary research to help narrow down your focus and refine your research problem.
- Don't include everything that you read on the topic. Use your research framework to decide what to include and what to leave out.

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 - **Save your search for future use.**



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- You should start by deciding the topic of your search.

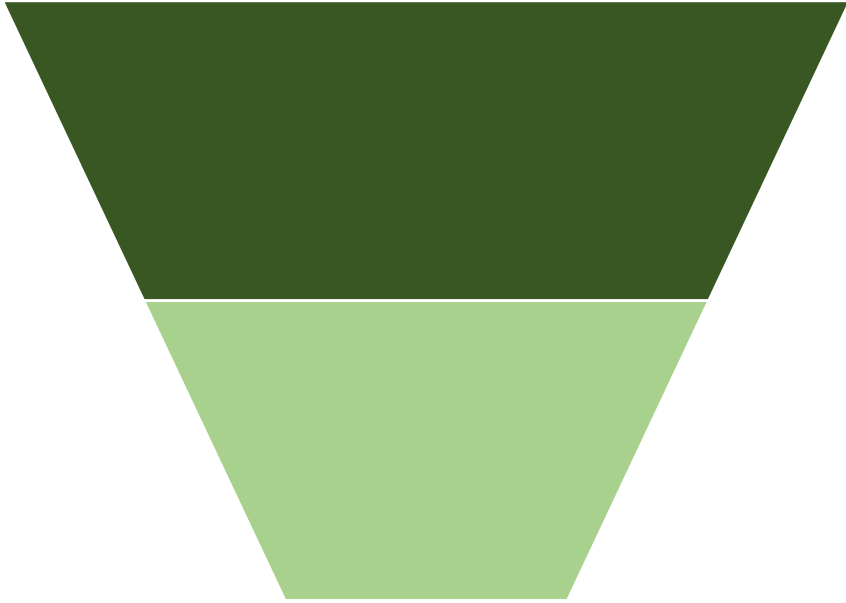
Structure of a Literature Review



Broad

- Provide an overview.
- Contextualise topic within wider subject.
- Introduce key theories or models.

Structure of a Literature Review



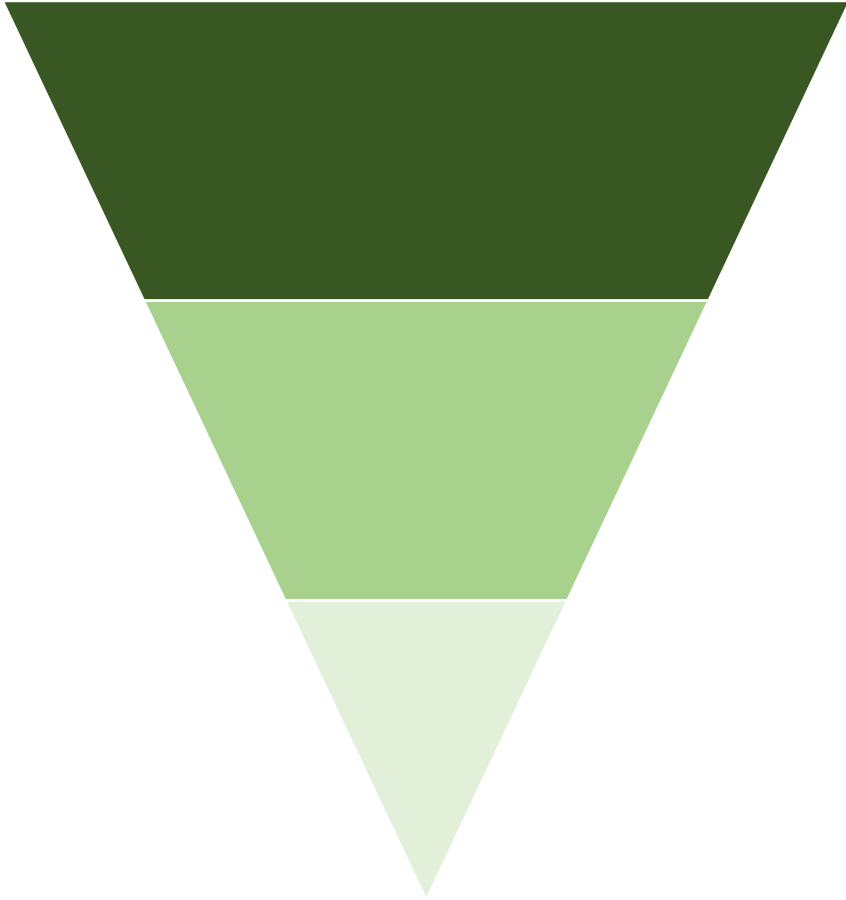
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Specific

- Delve deep into the select few studies that are most important to your research problem.

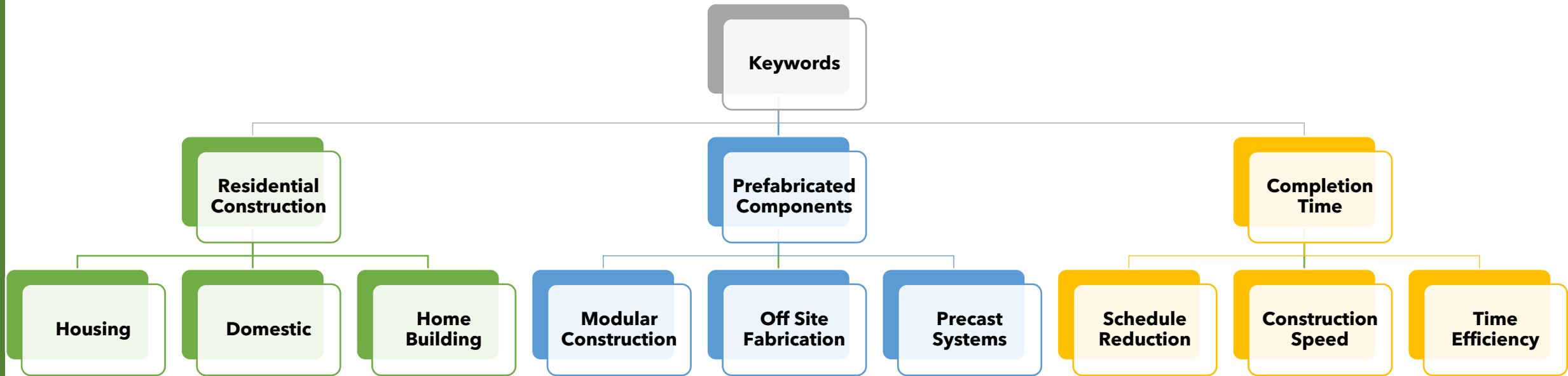
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- “In residential construction projects, how effective is the use of prefabricated components in reducing project completion time?”

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Define your search question



Decide where to search



Decide where to search

Start a new topic

Research history

After you ask a question, your research history will be displayed here.

AI-generated content. Quality may vary. Check for accuracy.

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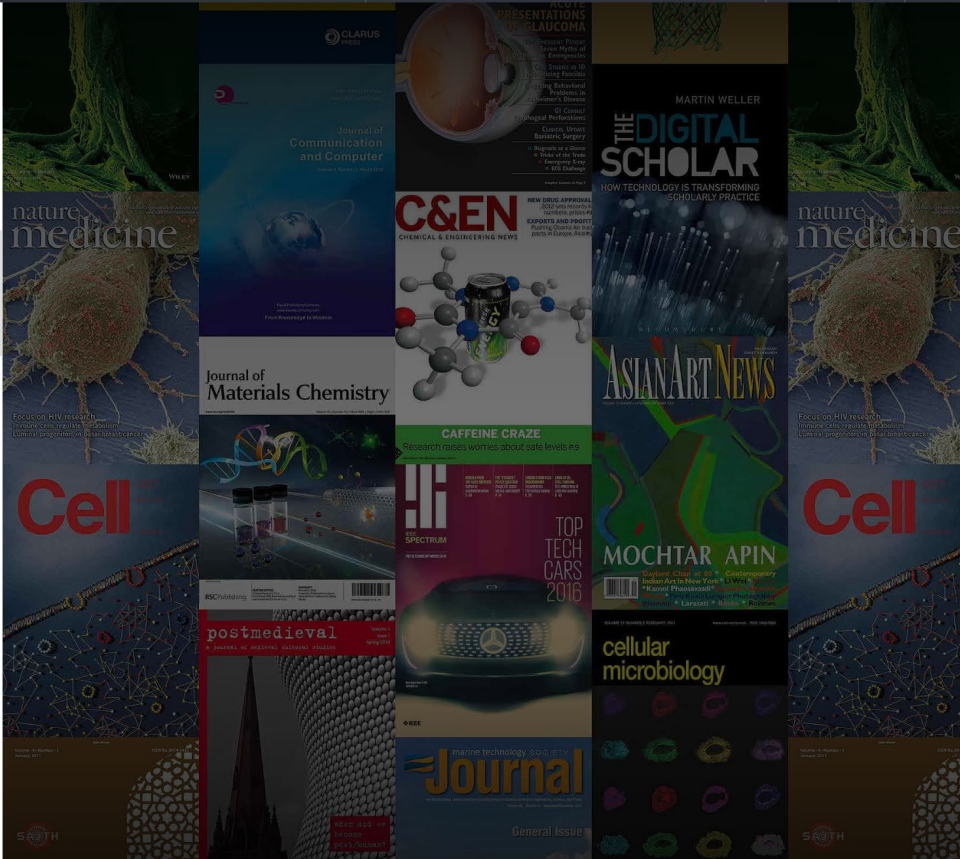
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[History](#) 



Decide where to search

Google Scholar

☒ Articles ☐ Case law

Stand on the shoulders of giants

Develop a Search Strategy

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- Your search strategy should account for all:
 - possible search terms;
 - keywords and phrases;
 - truncated and wildcard variations of search terms; and
 - subject headings (where applicable)

Refine your search

- Searches can often produce small or large numbers of results. Techniques can be used make your search more effective.

Too few?

- Include alternative key words

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- Check your spelling

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- Use a broader search question

Too Many?

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- Could you limit the search by language?

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- If you have a good technique for making notes, it will make it a lot easier when you need to write up your literature review.

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Citation Info	Summary of Key Points	Method	Important Figures	References to Follow Up on	Other Notes

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When was the work written and is that relevant? Who wrote it and is that relevant? What are their sources? Is their conclusion justified? Is it a theory? What are the flaws in their work? What are the positive? Does the author support a certain theory? supported by

How does it fit in with other literature?

Annotated Bibliography

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- It consists of a list of research sources, with each entry consisting of a citation followed by an annotation - a short paragraph summarising and evaluating the source.

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Modular Construction vs. Traditional Construction: Advantages and Limitations: A Comparative Study

Karthik Subramanya¹, Sharareh Kermanshachi² and Behzad Rouhanizadeh³

¹ Department of Civil Engineering, University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, USA,
karthik.subramanya@mavs.uta.edu

² Department of Civil Engineering, University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, USA,
sharareh.kermanshachi@uta.edu

³ Department of Civil Engineering, University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, USA,
behzad.rouhanizadeh@mavs.uta.edu

Abstract

Modular construction is a novel technique that has several advantages over traditional construction methods; however, along with the benefits, there are limitations that make it challenging. Various aspects of modular construction need to be studied in-depth to improve the construction process, and the aim of this study was to accomplish that by investigating its advantages and limitations and comparing them with traditional construction. The advantages were identified through a thorough literature review, and were classified into five categories: project schedule, project cost, labor safety, project quality and productivity, and environmental. The limitations were also investigated through the existing literature and classified into five categories: project planning, transportation, public and expert acceptance, establishment cost and cost due to complexity, and coordination. The results revealed that the advantages of modular construction outnumber its limitations; however, further technological development and research would lessen or mitigate the challenges. The results of this study highlight the main benefits and challenges associated with modular construction and will help project stakeholders choose between this method and conventional construction methods for their projects.

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Keywords: modular construction, traditional construction, modularization

Annotated Bibliography

- Subramanya, K. Kermanshachi, S and Rouhanizadeh, B. (2020). Modular Construction vs Traditional Construction: Advantages and Limitations: A Comparative Study. Proceedings of the Creative Construction e-Conference.

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- This paper compares modular and traditional construction methods across cost, schedule, quality, and sustainability factors. It finds that modular construction offers advantages such as faster delivery, improved quality control, and reduced waste, but faces challenges with transportation, high initial costs, and regulatory constraints. The study provides a balanced overview of benefits and drawbacks based on literature and case examples. Although primarily qualitative, it serves as a useful framework for researchers and practitioners evaluating modern construction methods.

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- Remember to be critical of the literature, don't accept findings without questioning all aspects of the research.