



THE LITERATURE REVIEW

UTS Library

TODAY IS ALL ABOUT ASSIGNMENT 2

You'll need to:

- * **Obtain approval** for your selected sub-topic of research within the general area of the environmental performance of cultural heritage places
- * **Undertake a literature search** into your topic using the resources of the UTS Library, together with any external sources you wish to use
- * Sources can include books, journal articles, university theses, conference papers – so we'll focus on finding this sort of stuff today

THEN, AFTER GATHERING YOUR RESEARCH..

Prepare and present a 5- minute oral presentation to the class summarising the results of your search. You may wish to prepare a short PowerPoint to illustrate your presentation, but it is not necessary.

Present a written report which includes:

- A list of the databases and other resources investigated
- A list of the literature references you have found that are relevant to your selected sub-topic, citing all references in approved standard academic style (10 references minimum)
- Brief critical comments on the content (use the authors' abstracts if available) and usefulness of each of the references on the list – approximately 150-200 words per item (this is also known as an **annotated bibliography**)
- General comments (approximately 300 words) on the current state of research on the sub-topic and opportunities for further research.

TOPICS COULD INCLUDE..

Environmental performance of historic buildings – **I'll use this example today**

Environmental performance of traditional building materials

Environmental performance of building components (walls, windows, roofs, verandahs)

Environmental performance of vernacular buildings in various parts of the world/climates:

Environmental performance of specific heritage buildings (case studies)

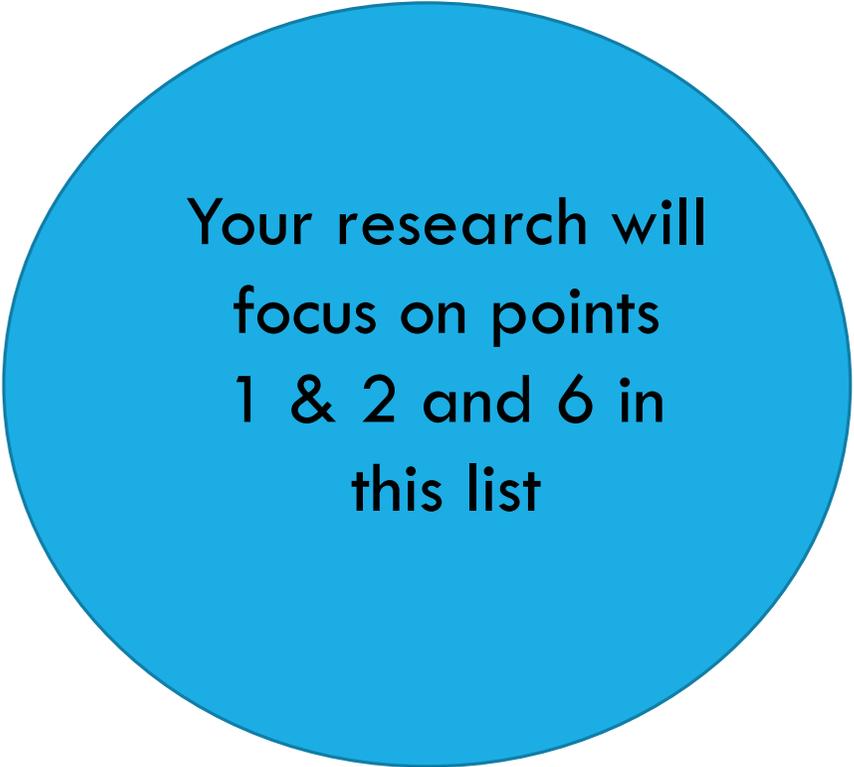
Environmental aspects of historic urban design and town planning

Traditional landscaping for environmental control

Water management in heritage places

And more...

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1. The proposition
 2. The literature review / current knowledge
 3. Data collection and methods
 4. Data analysis
 5. Conclusions
 6. Opportunities for further research



Your research will
focus on points
1 & 2 and 6 in
this list

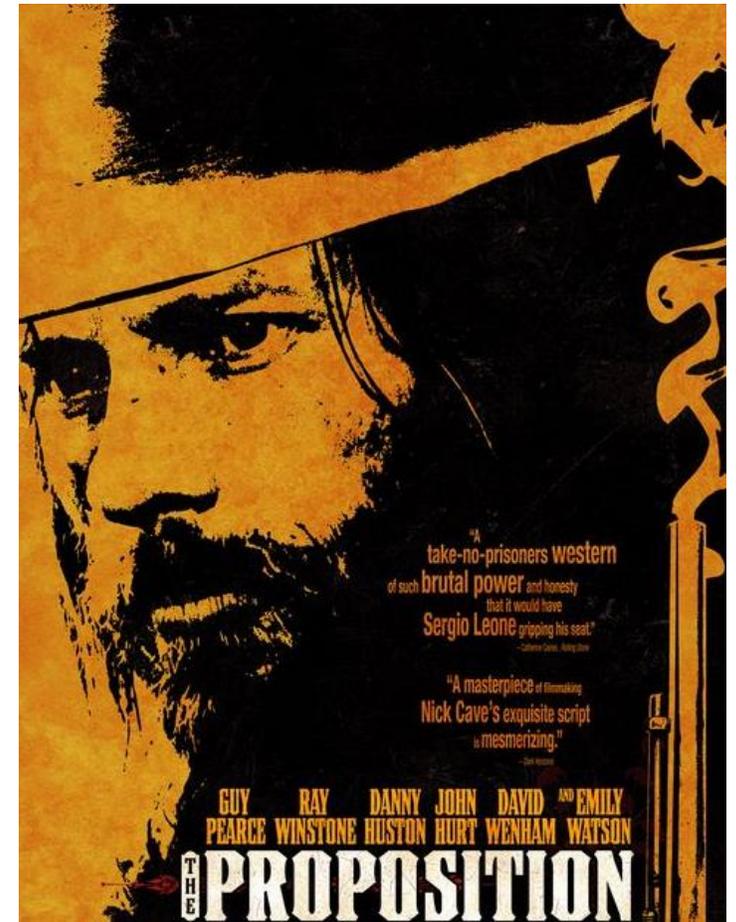
MEET THE STAGES OF RESEARCH

1. THE PROPOSITION

Topic design is a really important part of research.

Choose too general a topic and you'll make yourself miserable trying to answer the question you've posed.

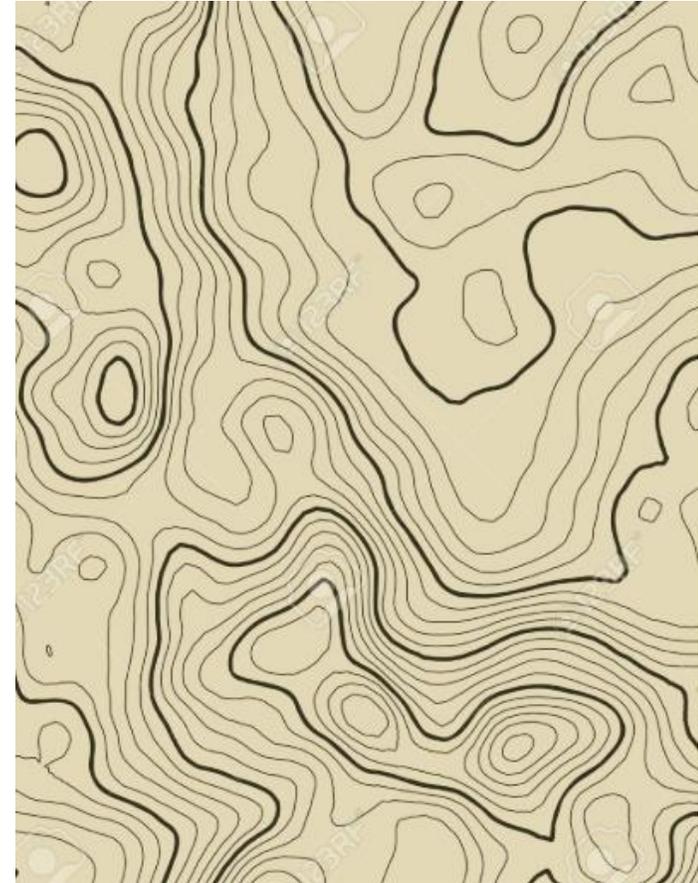
Choose too specific a topic and you may find that you don't have enough material to construct a proper literature review.



2. THE LITERATURE REVIEW

* **A Lit review is like a snapshot of the information landscape on a topic at any given time** – what's been done and what hasn't been done (the end of articles will often help you with the what more things could be researched in future).

* In a PHD or other academic piece of research **the lit review is often used to provide background but also to highlight gaps in the existing field of knowledge that the research aims to plug.**



TURNING A PROPOSITION INTO A LITERATURE REVIEW

* The hard part about turning your proposition into a literature review is **rephrasing it in a way that is friendly to a search engine.**

Let's explore some tips on how to do this...



SEARCH TIPS

- * **The size of the available literature** will shape the way you search
- * Generally you can only load **3 or 4 separate ideas** into a search before results get small
- * You can use **synonymous terms** to increase your reach when you search, and save you time (though you can over do this too)
- * **Speciality databases** allow you to control the way you search in more delicate ways that what Google or Google scholar can manage
- * It's a good rule of thumb to **search with more than one set of keywords in more than one place**. The extra time spent searching is a case of working smart not hard, as it will make the writing of the annotations and the overall summary easier
- * Generally in research you search for the main thrust of your research a few different ways, collect literature and then **read, learn more about your subject and later return to search again, apply new ideas and terminology to your search and plug gaps.**

EARLY ON — FIRST SEARCH, READING AND REFINING SEARCH TERMS

Environmental performance - a little reading yielded terms like

lighting and heating, energy efficiency, **passive thermal design**, embodied energy, **building materials** and even ways to ensure environmental performance like **retrofitting**.

Heritage buildings

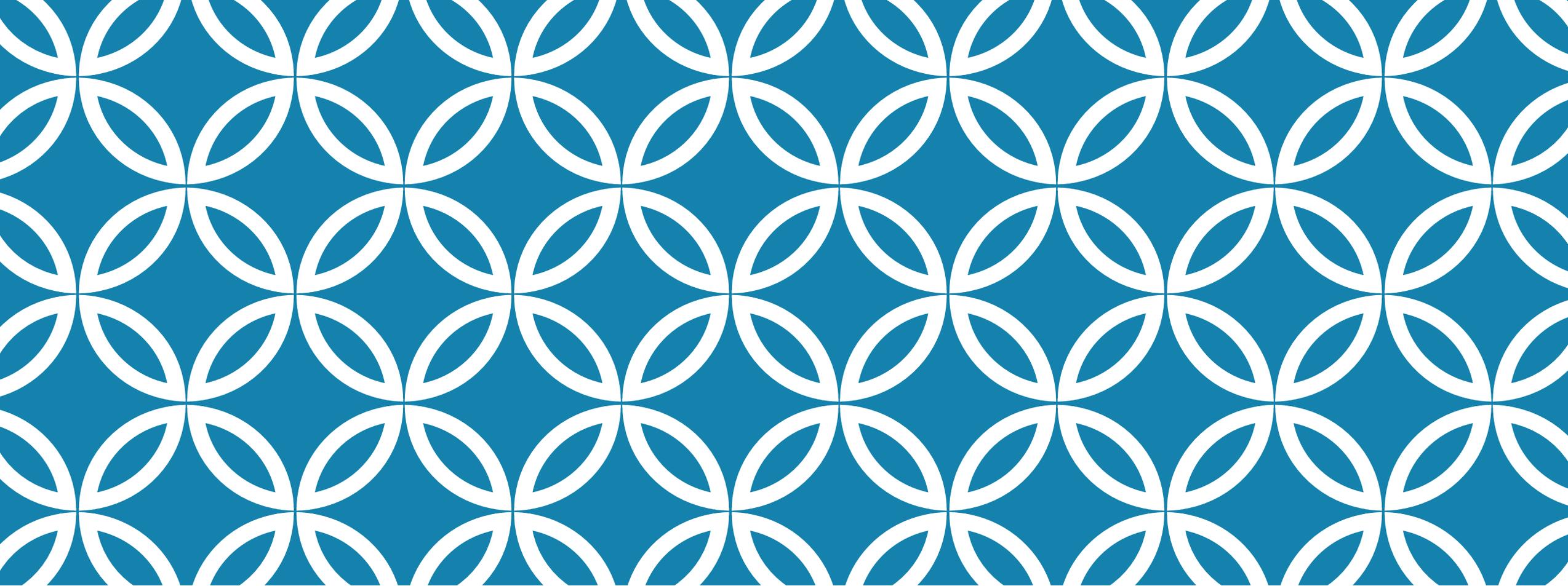
Historic ... any others?

You could also search for buildings associated with a certain era like **terraces** or **churches**

SECOND SEARCH WITH NEW TERMS AND IDENTIFYING GAPS (IF TIME)

For example:

For this topic I might find that I have a lot on **embodied energy** and **materials** but not much on **lighting**, so then I could go back and emphasise **lighting** in my search to plug a the gap.



NOW LET'S PUT ALL THIS INTO PRACTICE..