Reviewing the Related Literature

How to Publish an Academic Article Workshops
The Society for History Education – The History Teacher
You must relate your research to previous studies

1) What is the related literature?
2) How to read the related literature.
3) Find your entry point.
4) Look at model articles.
1) What is the related literature?

- What is the “related literature?”
  - All published journal articles cite other written materials – this is known as “the literature.”
  - You have to connect your article to the work of other scholars.
  - There is nothing that is entirely new.
2) How to read the related literature.

- You cannot (and should not) read everything.
- Tips to learn about the related literature quickly
  - 1) Set up your bibliographic software
  - 2) Narrow down your reading list
  - 3) Subscribe to peer-review journals
  - 4) Read the newest material first
  - 5) Limit note-taking
  - 6) Don't wait to write
3) Find your entry point.

• You need to find a way to connect your argument to the literature.
  • This is the “entry point”

• Tips for finding your entry point
  • 1) addressing a gap in the literature
  • 2) extending previous research
  • 3) correcting previous research
Look at model articles

William and Edwyna Gilbert Award Recipients
- Leah Shopkow, "How Many Sources Do I Need," *The History Teacher* 50, no. 2 (February 2017)
- Peter Burkholder, "A Content Means to a Critical Thinking End: Group Quizzing in History Surveys," *The History Teacher* 47, no. 4 (August 2014): 551-78