

Assignment 2: Literature review

- This assignment aims to introduce you to ways of accessing existing research and analysing academic literature. It is premised on the fact that the foundation of any good research is awareness of the existing literature and research on a given topic

THE TASK

Step 1: You need to answer **ONE** of the following:

1. What are the characteristics of the *corporatist approach* to the state?
2. Analyse and discuss the key characteristics of *Lasswell's policy orientation*.
3. What are some of the criticisms of *evidence based policy*?

THE TASK

Step 2:

- You are required to find FOUR (4) recent journal articles that are pertinent to the topic chosen. By 'recent', we mean in the last decade - no articles published before 2006. You can find journal articles by searching Databases and looking at references of existing articles. You need to find FOUR (4) journal articles using at least TWO (2) different databases.
- Please note that you may need to narrow the focus to make your selection coherent (ie, make sense). When you conduct the analytic component of this assignment, having articles around a coherent topic will help you to compare and contrast them.
- Although there are readings listed for each of the topics for this assignment, it is expected that students will undertake research on the topic and include original sources that they have found themselves.
- For each journal article used, you must identify the database used and give the URL. Some of the databases you may consider consulting are listed above in the Recommended Online Materials.

THE TASK

- **Step 3: The write up**
- **1) Introduction** - Introduce your topic and **describe the selected focus** (approximately 150 words).
- **2) Literature review** - You need to **outline the arguments** of each of the three articles selected and then spend a couple of paragraphs or more **comparing the respective arguments** of the three articles for similar or different views (approximately 1,000 words).
- **3) Conclusion** - What are your **overall impressions** of the material? Which argument or arguments do you think is / are the most powerful? (approximately 50-100 words).

THE TASK

- **4) References**
- References must be in alphabetical order. Please use the Harvard style of referencing. Refer to <http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/onlib/ref.html>
- You will also need to identify the **source** of your reference, i.e. the database you used to find the relevant journal article.

Finally,...

- **Assessment criteria** for Assignment 2 can be found up on Moodle. It is very important that you familiarise yourself with the criteria.
- Please submit your assignment via Turnitin on MOODLE.
- No hard copies will be accepted.