A literature review compiles and evaluates the research available on a certain topic or issue that you are researching and writing about. Because lit review formats vary greatly, be sure to read your professor’s instructions first and defer to them. • Write a specific question to guide your research. • Example: How has service-learning curricula impacted undergrads in American Christian Universities since 2000? Research*. Use your research question as a guide for research. Once you have completed the bulk of your research, compile the topic and the research results into one coherent thesis statement. *Refer to the Writing Center’s Argument, Research Tips & Resources, and Thesis Statements handouts for more information on these topics. 2/4/2015.