



Academic year	2025/2026
Subject	PERFORMING A SYSTEMATIC LITERATURE REVIEW
Instructor	Prof.ssa Giuseppina Migliore
Period	Febbraio 2026 (Lezione 1: 17/02/2026; Lezione 2: 19/02/2026; Lezione 3: 24/02/2026; Lezione 4: 26/02/2026; Lezione 5: 27/02/2026)
Course description	<p>The course provides a comprehensive overview of the methodological aspects required to conduct a Systematic Literature Review (SLR) in accordance with international standards. Through a structured approach, participants will learn the key stages of the systematic review process, from defining the protocol to synthesizing the results.</p> <p>The training program introduces the PRISMA guidelines, with particular attention to protocol development and the completion of the PRISMA checklist. It will also delve into the essential elements needed to develop effective search strategies, including the construction of search algorithms, the identification of keywords, and the selection of the most appropriate databases.</p> <p>The course offers practical tools for synthesizing results in a rigorous and transparent manner, guiding participants in organizing and critically assessing the evidence collected. Finally, the procedure for registering a systematic review protocol on major international platforms will be presented.</p>
Learning objectives	<p>By the end of this course, participants will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understand the key methodological principles underlying Systematic Literature Reviews (SLRs) and their role in evidence-based research.• Develop a complete and rigorous review protocol, following the PRISMA guidelines and correctly applying the PRISMA checklist items.• Design effective search strategies, including the construction of search algorithms, identification of keywords, and selection of appropriate academic databases.• Apply systematic methods to screen, extract, and synthesize evidence, ensuring transparency, reproducibility, and methodological rigor.• Critically evaluate and organize the results of a systematic search, producing coherent and well-structured evidence syntheses.
Suggested readings	<p>Core Textbooks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jesson, J. K., Matheson, L., & Lacey, F. M. (2011). Doing Your Literature Review: Traditional and Systematic Techniques. London: SAGE Publications. <p>Methodological and Reporting Standards</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Page, M. J., McKenzie, J. E., Bossuyt, P. M., et al. (2021). The PRISMA 2020 Statement: An Updated Guideline for Reporting Systematic Reviews. BMJ, 372:n71. Other didactical material: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Other materials provided by the Prof. G. Migliore
Duration	10 ore
Credits	2 CFU
Assessment method	Assessment will be based on active participation in lectures and practical exercises, as well as on the presentation of an SLR proposal that includes a clearly defined research question, the development of search algorithms for SCOPUS and Web of Science, and the application of the PRISMA approach.
Teaching methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Lectures supported by multimedia materials.Analysis of successful and well-established published SLRs.Guided discussion.
Contacts	Prof.ssa Giuseppina Migliore, E-mail: giuseppina.migliore@unipa.it
Syllabus	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Methodological foundations of Systematic Literature Reviews (SLRs): overview of the stages involved in designing and conducting a systematic review.Developing a systematic review protocol: introduction to PRISMA guidelines and detailed examination of the PRISMA checklist items.Search strategies and algorithm development: constructing and applying search algorithms in Scopus and Web of Science.Synthesizing evidence: defining the procedures and techniques for systematically synthesizing and reporting SLR findings.Protocol registration: introduction to PROSPERO and guidelines for registering a Systematic Literature Review protocol.