Synthesizing the Literature

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1. Organized by work or section
2. Reports on the whole (or a whole section) of the original
3. Condensed version
4. In your own words
5. Purpose: demonstrates understanding
It’s a synthesis

1. Organized by topic
2. Analyzed
3. Evaluated
4. Selected information
5. Significant information
6. Combines multiple sources
7. Sorted and organized
8. In your own words

Moreillon, 2006, p.132
It’s transformative

1. As information is analyzed, it is filtered through your own interpretation

2. Purpose: A synthesis creates new meaning and conclusions from what was learned

Moreillon, 2006, p.132
1. Analyze each article
2. Extract significant information
3. As a group, look for connections and patterns
4. Identify core ideas common to some/most/all articles
5. Map the core ideas on the synthesis matrix
6. Synthesize across the row
Accurately show the relationships between sources

1. agrees
2. disagrees
3. concurs
4. expounds upon
5. goes even further
6. contradicts
7. confirms
8. clarifies
1. Much of the literature points out that while capital punishment does not deter crime, most Americans still believe that it does deter crime.

2. Not only does the literature agree that capital punishment does not deter crime, some literature suggests that capital punishment may in fact cause more crime.
We’re done!

Go forth and synthesize!