

## Conducting a World Class Review of the Literature

A literature review is such a common feature in research studies that it is often taken for granted. A high quality literature review should explore the current state of knowledge within a domain of knowledge, identify gaps in theoretical understanding of phenomena, illuminate methodological trends and problems, and help justify the purposes and objectives of your research. A good literature review can be published in its own right without the collection of any empirical data. This presentation will seek to describe the dimensions and methods of conducting a literature review for use in preparing for an empirical study or for publication.

Objectives of this seminar:

1. Clarify the purposes for conducting a literature review
2. Explore alternative approaches to reviewing literature
3. Elaborate on key features of high quality literature reviews
4. Discuss the expected 'outcomes' of a literature review
5. Provide an example of how a literature review can illuminate problems of research, theory, policy and practice

### SPEAKER

**Professor Philip Hallinger**

*Joseph Lau Chair Professor of Leadership and Change*

Dr. Philip Hallinger is Chair Professor of Leadership and Change at HKIEd. In addition to conducting quantitative and qualitative empirical research studies in educational leadership, he has also published literature reviews as a means of contributing to knowledge. Dr. Hallinger's literature reviews focusing on school leadership effects published during the late 1990's have amassed over 1,000 citations by other scholars working in this field. One published article from this group of related research reviews is the most widely cited article in the history of the field's top journal, *Educational Administration Quarterly*.



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