

Guide for the Review Article (Summary for students)

v20230220 (<https://www.ru.nl/courseguides/science/master/master-biology/review-article-research-proposal-0/review-article/>)

Timeframe and appointments

This is a 6 EC course, which translates to a load of four, full-time weeks. In case you wish to schedule your time investment differently, you may discuss a modified time frame with your supervisor. You will have four moments of contact with your supervisor, either in person or via email. Once you have found a supervisor you should fill in the form you receive by email when enrolling for the course. In this way you can later upload your final version in SPIB and your supervisor can grade the review article.

During your first moment of contact:

- You agree on supervision;
- You align expectations (see most recent guidelines and rubric in the study guide);
- You agree on an overall time frame;
- You set a deadline for the outline and plan your second moment of contact.

During the second moment of contact:

- You discuss the outline;
- You discuss the grading form;
- You set the deadlines for the first full version and final version and plan your third moment of contact.

During the third moment of contact:

- You discuss the first full version;
- You plan your fourth moment of contact.

During the fourth contact moment:

- You discuss the grade and, if applicable, further actions.

Writing the review article

When writing your review you will develop an outline, a first full version and a final version of the review, the latter including a rebuttal to the comments of your supervisor (and peers). More details about the writing process can be found in the full guide.

Structure of the review article

The review article must have the following structure:

- A title page;
- A brief summary;
- An introduction in which a main question, aims of the review and sub-questions are formulated;
- A body of the text, either as two separate or one integrated section consisting of:
 - An examination of the used articles;
 - A discussion with critical comments with respect to the articles that are used and conclusions concerning the main question and sub-questions as formulated in the introduction;
- A conclusion with perspectives;
- A reference list;
- A rebuttal.

Supervision and grading

When writing a review you are responsible for your own work. This means that you initiate the appointments with your supervisor and come prepared to these appointments. Your supervisor will use an online evaluation form (PDF example available in the study guide) to grade your review. There is some flexibility in the form, as explained in the full guide. Please also refer to the full guide in case you received a failing grade.