Overview: As the final project for this course, you will be creating a **hypothetical study**. You are not and should not be conducting human subject research for this project. It is not necessary for the purposes of this assignment. All human subject research requires written approval from the AU Institutional Review Board in order to protect the welfare and ensure ethical treatment of the subjects. This assessment will help you recognize the value of research in psychology and the value of supporting your claims with established views and research.

For this Milestone 2 assignment, the following critical elements must be addressed:

I.   You will use the **five (5)** sources you identified in your Milestone 1 assignment to address your chosen topic. Remember that for this milestone 2 assignment, you are, in essence, building your literature review (introduction section) for your final paper. A literature review is both a summary as well as an explanation of knowledge. This assignment is going to allow you to summarize, evaluate, and compare the original research you have found, and it will help orient your reader.

II.   **Next, based on your understanding of each article, answer the following questions that pertain to essential literature review elements:**

- Summarize the **claims** made by the authors of the existing research in the field regarding the topic you have chosen. (Make sure you explain the claims the authors made about their researched topic as well as the conclusions they reached).
- Describe the specific **research designs** used in the presented research and explain **how these designs were used** to address the research topic. For example, what were the specific methods used to address their research questions? What types of research design(s) were used (be specific)? (make sure you briefly include the number of participants, their demographics (gender, age, and so forth if the article provides them), and briefly explain where and how the research was conducted (the procedure).
- How did the **research designs** used by researchers help in conducting their research?
- Do you think the research in each of the articles was conducted in an **ethical manner**? Why or why not?
- What overall **conclusions** can be reached by you, based on your own review and presentation of these studies and references?

Guidelines for Submission: You will upload the paper as a Word document to Blackboard for grading and feedback. Your submission for this milestone must be follow APA paper guidelines. Your submission should not exceed 5-6 pages (excluding the cover and reference pages). It should include a cover page and reference page, be written with 12-point Times New Roman font and double spacing, and you will follow proper APA citation and reference format.

Any thoughts that are not your own **MUST** be cited in proper APA format. Direct quotes (short and long) **MUST** be cited and formatted following APA guidelines. Even if you paraphrase information, it **MUST** be cited. Papers are being evaluated through SafeAssign. Plagiarism will **NOT** be tolerated. If plagiarism is discovered, it will result in a grade of 0 for the assignment and possible disciplinary action. AU's writing center can assist you if you are unsure. You can also use the following Purdue OWL link: https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/ to help you with your citations and references and you can avoid plagiarism by also using one of the following plagiarism checking links: https://papersowl.com/free-plagiarism-checker , https://www.grammarly.com/plagiarism-checker , https://smallseotools.com/plagiarism-checker/

Milestone 2: Literature Review/Introduction Grading Rubric

Critical Elements	Proficient (100%)	Needs Improvement (70%)	Not Evident (0%)	Value
Literature Summary & Claims	Summarizes the claims and conclusions presented in the selected articles using rich detail	Summarizes the claims and conclusions presented in the selected articles, but summary is cursory and/or contains inaccuracies	Does not summarize the claims and conclusions presented in the selected articles	15points
Research Design description	Describes the specific research design(s) used in the selected articles AND explains how they were utilized in rich detail	Describes the specific research design(s) used in the selected articles AND explains how they were used, but description is cursory and/or contains inaccuracies	Does not describe the specific research design(s) used in the selected articles nor explains how they were used	15points
Research design help	Describes how the research designs used in the presented articles assisted in conducting the research	Describes how the research designs used in the presented articles assisted in conducting the research but description is cursory and/or contains inaccuracies	Does not describe how the research designs used in the presented articles assisted in conducting the research	10points
Ethics	Explains whether or not the presented research was conducted in an ethical manner and uses specific examples from the articles to demonstrate this	Explains whether or not the presented research was conducted in an ethical manner but description is cursory, contains inaccuracies, and/or lacks examples from the articles	Does not explain whether or not the presented research was conducted in an ethical manner	10points
Overall conclusions	Explains the overall conclusions that can be reached based on analysis of the selected articles	Explains the overall conclusions that can be reached based on analysis of the selected research but description is cursory and/or contains inaccuracies	Does not explain overall conclusions based on the analysis of the selected articles	5points
Writing Mechanics	Writing is in APA format, easily understood, clear, and concise using proper citation methods where applicable with no errors in citations, references & grammar	Writing is understandable using proper citation methods where applicable with a number of errors in APA format, citations, references, & grammar	Writing is very difficult to understand, does not use proper citation methods where applicable and has significant errors in APA format, references, & grammar	5points
			Total	**100% (60points)**