**Literature review map**

Plan out your research with this helpful literature review map, apply these strategies to your own work by filling out your answers to the questions below.

**Themes**What central themes have you identified in the field of research?

**Research chronology**

Show how the research field has developed over time.

Audit independence began to gain increasing importance in the 20th century.

Audit independence is not viewed as the utmost important aspect of audit quality.

Increasing regulation and requirement on auditors to ensure audit independence since 1990s.

New urge to rethink the function of audit and whether audit independence add extra value to clients and stakeholders in late 2010s.

**Debates and disagreements**

Is audit’s only function checking the financial statement? If not, then what could we offer? In such a case, is audit independence important anymore? Should we prioritise the usefulness of audit over independence?

Audit independence is crucial as audit is based on trust. If auditors cannot be seemed as independent, the value of audit will not exist as the audit done will not seemed to be credible. Would the audit lose its value then?

What are the main debates and disagreements in this field of research?

Methodology

Research based on professionals,

Quantitative

Methodology

Methodology

**The Problem**

Case study and qualitative data

Financial Reporting framework, IFRS, Standard setter

Hollis Ashbauugh, Ryan Lafond, Brian W. Mayhew- non-audit service offered by the firm and audit compromise.

Who are the key researchers in the field? What was their major contribution?

**Key researchers**



Dan A. SImunic- audit independence and consulting service.

Linda ElizabethDeAngelo- relationship between audit, regulation, and potential of low balling.



Chris Humphrey- rethinking the aim and usefulness of current audit and contributing to audit reform via the Brydon Report.



What gaps or weaknesses are there in the research field?

**Gaps in the research**

Limited evidence on the user of financial statements and hence the usefulness of audit to provide assurance on specific stakeholders of audit.

Evidence on the usefulness of audit service and independence to adding extra value to the financial statements.

Comparing audit independence created by principle-based audit or rule-based audit. Does the regulations and strict rule increase the independence of auditor or it merely adds more red tape?