Template: Developing a logical argument in steps (S) in a dissertation (warranting unit)

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| **Identifying, evaluating and building on the most relevant existing knowledge** | |
| **S2: Literature Review (this focus)** | |
| Review questions for substantive aim  (issues related to this focus within the substantive topic) | Review question(s), substantive aim: |
| In summary, the answer to each review question, substantive aim: |
| Review questions for theoretical aim  (concepts and maybe framework to study this focus) | Review question(s), theoretical aim: |
| In summary, the answer to each review question, theoretical aim: |
| **Building towards the sample and focus of the data collection instruments** | |
| **S3: Research Design (this focus)** | |
| Review questions for methodological aim  (issues relating to the methodology and methods for this focus) | Review question(s), methodological aim: |
| In summary, the answer to each review question, methodological aim: |
| Research questions for this focus within substantive aim  (informed by answers to review questions) | Research questions: |
| Sample: relevant to this focus within substantive aim  (sources of empirical evidence to answer the research questions) | Sample (e.g. sites, informants, texts, observations): |
| Why this sample is being chosen and how it can contribute to answering the research questions: |
| **Focusing the data collection instruments** | |
| Data collection instruments: relevant to this focus within substantive aim  (also reflecting theoretical aim) | Instruments (e.g. on-line survey, observation schedule): |
| Any instruments or raw data to be included in appendices, as supporting evidence of the design for this focus: |
| In summary, how the items within instruments are designed to obtain answers to specific research questions: |
| In summary, how these items employ the concepts of theoretical framework: |
| **Focusing the presentation of the findings** | |
| **S4: Findings (this focus)** | |
| Empirical findings relevant to this focus within substantive aim (order of presentation, linkage with research questions) | In summary, how presentation of findings is organized (e.g. findings relating to each research question in turn): |
| In summary, the way that the presentation of the findings has been organized is signalled to readers: |
| In summary, the answer that particular findings give to each research question: |
| **Focusing the discussion of the findings** | |
| **S5: Discussion of Findings (this focus)** | |
| For substantive aim, theoretical aim as relevant to this focus:  (synthesizing findings, implications for literature demonstrating their significance) | In summary, contribution that answers to the research questions make to achieving the substantive aim: |
| In summary, implications of answers to the research questions for the substantive, and possibly theoretical, literature reviewed: |
| In summary, any implications of answers to the research questions for other relevant literature domains: |
| Theoretical aim, methodological aim, as relevant to this focus  (how the research approach may affect the findings) | Impact of the strengths and limitations of theoretical framework on the findings: |
| Impact of the strengths and limitations of the methods on the findings: |
| **Articulating and evaluating the contribution of the research to the substantive and theoretical focus** | |
| **Conclusion (this focus, linking to the next chapter)** | |
| For this focus: knowledge gained | Summative claim stating what knowledge the research has generated about this focus within the substantive topic |
| In summary, how far the research questions for this focus have been answered and a contribution to the substantive aim achieved |
| Implications for the next focus or conclusion chapter | How the findings for this focus and their implications for literature inform the next focus or contribute to the conclusion of the overall argument |