Learning to navigate the landscape of publishing

GINTL Masterclass

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12 & 13 October 2023

JYVÄSKYLÄN YLIOPISTO
UNIVERSITY OF JYVÄSKYLÄ

MOVI
Centre for Multilingual Academic Communication

Topics

- Authorship
- Types of journals, benefits and drawbacks
- Open-access publishing
- Identifying predatory journals; common unethical practices
- Identifying potential journals: useful tips
- Types of articles accepted by journals (manuscript categories)
- Examining journals more closely: aspects to consider
- Types of peer review
- The publishing process: roles and responsibilities
- Before submitting a manuscript to a journal
- Writing a pre-submission inquiry and submission cover letter
- Common issues with manuscripts
- The notion of impact and its links to language and publication choices
- Metrics (Journal Impact Factor, CiteScore, Altmetrics)
- Communicating within and beyond academia: audiences and goals

Pre-task questions

1. Are you planning on publishing your MA thesis in the future? Are you planning to pursue a PhD degree?

2. Do you have any academic publishing experience?

3. If not, have you heard of any stories, positive or negative, regarding publishing articles in academic journals?

Authorship
Contributions to an article

Authorship – unethical practices

Collaboration in research and writing for publication is getting more and more common.

"Ghost author"	Someone who **should be named as an author because of their contribution but is not** (see also Wordvice, 2022).
"Guest author / honorary author"	Someone holding a senior position who is only **minimally involved** in a paper but **"lends" their name** (and that of the institution) as an author (often first author!) **to bolster the paper's credibility** and/or **improve publication odds** (no effect in double-blind peer reviews). **Cultural** considerations.
"Gift author"	Someone listed as a co-author with **little or no involvement** just to help them **increase their publication list.**
"Ghost writer"	**Professional writer(s)** hired to **draft** the manuscript (often for companies doing research) **without being listed** as authors.

“The Vancouver criteria” of authorship
International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE)

Substantial contributions to the **conception** or **design** of the work; OR to the **acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data**

AND

Drafting the work or **revising** it **critically** for important intellectual content

AND

Final approval of the version to be published

AND

Agreement to be **accountable** for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the **accuracy** or **integrity** of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

In addition, **an author should be able to identify which co-authors are responsible for specific other parts of the work** and have **confidence in the integrity of the contributions of their co-authors**.
http://www.icmje.org/recommendations/browse/roles-and-responsibilities/defining-the-role-of-authors-and-contributors.html

JYU: Authorship

Practices vary across disciplines.

How contributions are acknowledged in the publication must be discussed and agreed upon.

Ethical principles of publishing at JYU
Based on TENK's recommendations (Finnish National Board on Research Integrity, 2019)
Agreeing on authorship. Recommendation for research publications
(English version from p. 47)
p. 62 Appendix 1: Table for assessing authorship

Author order

- Author order implies authors' **relative contributions** (with exception of the senior author position).
- **Last author: senior author** (a senior person who oversaw the research, e.g., head of the research team)
- **First author** (often a PhD student or a junior person): who **wrote up the draft** and most probably **collected the data**.
- Papers may have **two first authors** (2 PhD students – equal contribution)
- Large working groups may be cited **as a group** (hundreds of authors)
- For fairness, **alphabetical order** may be used if researchers have **contributed equally**.

Acknowledgements section

- **Funders**
- Contributors who offered materials/ advice **not significant enough to merit authorship**

Term	Definition
Conceptualization	Ideas; formulation or evolution of overarching research goals and aims
Methodology	Development or design of methodology; creation of models
Software	Programming, software development; designing computer programs; implementation of the computer code and supporting algorithms; testing of existing code components
Validation	Verification, whether as a part of the activity or separate, of the overall replication/ reproducibility of results/experiments and other research outputs
Formal Analysis	Application of statistical, mathematical, computational, or other formal techniques to analyze or synthesize study data
Investigation	Conducting a research and investigation process, specifically performing the experiments, or data/evidence collection
Resources	Provision of study materials, reagents, materials, patients, laboratory samples, animals, instrumentation, computing resources, or other analysis tools
Data Curation	Management activities to annotate (produce metadata), scrub data and maintain research data (including software code, where it is necessary for interpreting the data itself) for initial use and later reuse
Writing – Original Draft	Preparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically writing the initial draft (including substantive translation)
Writing – Review & Editing	Preparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work by those from the original research group, specifically critical review, commentary or revision – including pre- or postpublication stages
Visualization	Preparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically visualization/ data presentation
Supervision	Oversight and leadership responsibility for the research activity planning and execution, including mentorship external to the core team
Project Administration	Management and coordination responsibility for the research activity planning and execution
Funding Acquisition	Acquisition of the financial support for the project leading to this publication

CRediT https://credit.niso.org/ Contributor Roles Taxonomy

Many publishers have adopted it (e.g., Elsevier)

"**These roles are not intended to define what constitutes authorship**. Rather, the roles are intended to **apply to all those who contribute** to research that results in scholarly published works, and it is **recommended that all tagged contributors be listed, whether they are formally listed as authors or named in acknowledgements.** An individual contributor may be assigned multiple roles, and a given role may be assigned to multiple contributors. **When there are multiple people serving in the same role, a degree of contribution may optionally be specified as 'lead', 'equal', or 'supporting'.** It is recommended that corresponding authors assume responsibility for role assignment, and that all contributors be given the opportunity to review and confirm assigned roles". (Brand et al., 2015)

Translation!

Brand et al. (2015)

Types of academic journals

Pre-task questions

1. What **English-language academic journals** are you familiar **within your field**? Do you regularly follow any of them?
2. Are you familiar with a well-established, quality academic journal in your field that **publishes in a language other than English**, especially in your first language (if it is not English)?

Recommended journals to publish in

1. **Disciplinary journals** (general scope, difficult to get in, might not be as open to new ideas)
2. **Special issues / (regular) themed issues** (organized by editors or proposed by authors, less competitive)
3. **Field journals** (a specific field within a discipline – the best option for novice authors)
4. **Interdisciplinary journals** (read their aims and scope carefully)
5. **Newer journals** (3–7 years old) (often they focus on new paradigms less accepted by established journals → fewer submissions, better chance of getting published quickly, more open to novice authors)
6. **Regional** journals (e.g., Nordic region, Africa, East-Asia) (narrower focus, less readership, could focus on smaller regions → less competitive)
7. **Review journals** (e.g., *Educational Research Review, Review of Higher Education, Educational Psychology Review, Review of Educational Research*)

Less preferred options

1. **Local journals** (e.g., a country, a university faculty, a local association; local/regional editorial board, mainly local authors. Might be a good option if your topic is local). Language?
2. **New journals** (planning the first issue or have published only a few issues → check editor, editorial board and publisher)
3. **Chapters in edited volumes** (collections of articles published in a book) (easy to get in, but receive less attention – better for descriptive / speculative / informative essays)
4. **Conference proceedings** (many are not peer-reviewed or copy-edited, get less attention)
5. **(Open access) e-print repositories (preprint / self-archiving sites)** E.g., EdarXiv (check target journal policies if you want to publish it later, check the rights granted by the e-print repository: can you republish it later?)

Features of journals

- **Online-only** journals vs. **both print & online**
- **Peer-reviewed (=refereed)** journals
- **(Gold) Open access vs. hybrid** or **traditional subscription** journals

  High-quality open access journals → Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)

  More and more journals follow this model (gold = all articles are open access)

  Always check **reliability** (predatory journals tend to be open access!)

  Open Access journals quality indicators
- **Mega journals** (e.g., SAGE Open, PLOS One, Nature's Scientific Reports) (very broad coverage, quicker publication, open access, online-only) see Wikipedia entry (Predatory publishers tend to use this model, but not all mega journals are predatory!)
- **Trade / professional journals** (for practitioners: news, information, technical / practical aspects related to a profession) not peer-reviewed, informal style, few (or no) references


Little Red Riding Hood by Jessie Willcox Smith, 1911
From the book *A Child's Book of Stories*

Predatory journals and publishers

"Predatory journals and publishers are entities that **prioritize self-interest at the expense of scholarship** and are characterized by **false or misleading information, deviation from best editorial and publication practices, a lack of transparency, and/or the use of aggressive and indiscriminate solicitation practices**." (Grudniewicz et al., 2019)

Check journals in the **Cabells** database via Jykdok!

CABELLS
Journalytics Predatory Reports Author Services
Peer Review Week 2020

Avoid predatory journals!

1. Mimicking the name or web site style of more established journals
2. Aggressive marketing (e-mail invitations to submit papers or serve on editorial boards)
3. Listing academics as members of editorial boards without their permission/ not allowing academics to resign from editorial boards
4. Publication fees revealed only after the article has been accepted
5. Fake names on the editorial board and other false or misleading information (e.g., false location, fake articles, fake metrics [’impact index’], ISSN)
6. No quality control, promising quick submission (e.g., within a week)
7. Hoax: they take the money and publish nothing
8. Typographical and other errors on their website and in their e-mails
9. Lack of good quality (or any) articles on their website

Predatory conferences: https://www.enago.com/academy/tag/predatory-conferences/

Example of a controversial publisher

Frontiers Media (publisher based in Switzerland)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frontiers_Media

Read the *Controversies* section.

Not all journals that start with *Frontiers* are published by this publisher!

Publishing models
Open-access publishing

Problems with the traditional (subscription) publishing model

Inequality between countries and universities (high subscription fees → access to the full text of articles).

Inflexible subscription packages offered by major for-profit publishers.

Taxpayers' right to have access to **publicly funded research**.

Open access options

NOT RECOMMENDED in Finland (Plan S)

Gold OA

- Publish in a **fully OA journal** (where all articles are open access)
- **Publication fee (article processing charge)** (check possible funding body agreements)

  Open Access agreements exist with several publishers → no charge for publishing open access (e.g., Elsevier, check participating journals list)

  JYU: https://openscience.jyu.fi/en/open-access-publishing

Hybrid OA

- Publish in a **subscription journal** that **offers an OA option for individual articles** (typically there is a **publication fee** (article-processing charge [APC])

Green OA (open access in repositories after an embargo period)

- Publish in a traditional subscription or hybrid journal (not open-access → no fee) and **self-archive** a version of your article in an OA archive (= parallel publishing):
  - ✓ In your institutional repository (e.g., JYX), on academic social networking sites (e.g., Academia.edu, ResearchGate), or on your own website.

  Check whether you are allowed to publish your paper immediately or there is an **embargo period** (it can be as long as 3 years) (E.g., Elsevier journal embargo finder https://www.elsevier.com/open-access/journal-embargo-finder)

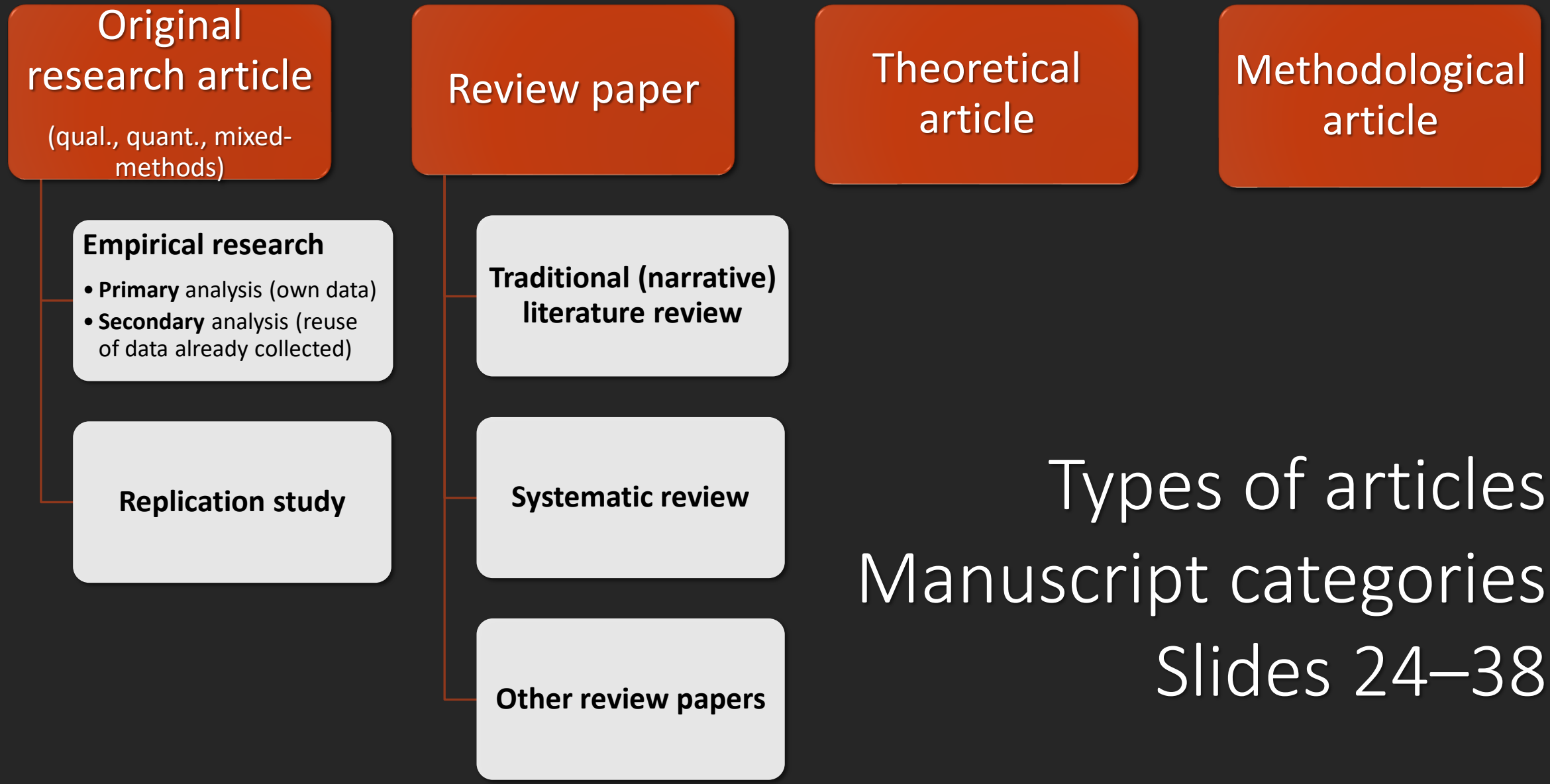
  Check **which version** of the article you are allowed to share (Sherpa Romeo)

Benefits of Gold Open access

- Generous **reuse and remixing rights** (e.g., CC BY license).
- **Author holds copyright with no restrictions**.
- **Author may post any version to any repository or website with no delay.**

("How open is it?", 2018)

Types of articles
Manuscript categories



Types of articles
Manuscript categories
Slides 24–38

Original research articles

- Significant contribution to the knowledge base in a particular field
- Empirical research / replication studies
- Qualitative (including case studies), quantitative, or mixed-methods
- Has not been formally published previously

Am I allowed to republish an article that has already been published elsewhere in a different language?

→ editor's permission + consent from the previous publisher

Am I allowed to republish an article later as a book chapter?

→ copyright, permission, cite the original publication

Original research articles
Empirical studies – 2 main types

PRIMARY ANALYSIS

- Your own data (collected independently by you / research group)

SECONDARY ANALYSIS

- Reusing (quantitative / qualitative) data already collected (by you or someone else)
- Reprocessing the data, addressing a new research question
- E.g., economics, sociology, business, health sciences
- Sources of research data:
  - ✓Data archives/ repositories
  - ✓Data freely available online
  - ✓Reuse of own data

Secondary analysis

Practical and ethical considerations

CREDIBILITY AND CREDENTIALS

Who collected the original data?

COMPATIBILITY OF THE DATA

Does the nature & quality of the original data fit the purpose of the new analysis?

- Time of data collection, definitions, data collection methods, limits of the data set, historical/ political circumstances surrounding data collection

REPORTING OF THE NEW ANALYSIS

Do you need to include information about the original study?

- Purpose, data collection procedures, process of data analysis, methodological and ethical considerations

POSITION OF THE SECONDARY ANALYST

Were you part of the original research team?

- Access to the original data, assessing the quality of the original work, and negotiating possible contractual agreements

ETHICAL ISSUES

Does the re-use of the data violate the original contract made between the subjects and the researcher (consent)?

- You can consider obtaining consent which covers the possibility of secondary analysis.

Heaton (1998), Payne & Payne (2004)

Original research articles: Replication studies

Verify/ reproduce findings from previous studies

Direct/ literal/ exact replication

Procedures are the same as in the original or duplicated as closely as possible (e.g., only the location and the investigators are different).

Are the findings of the original study reliable?

Approximate/ modified replication

Alternative procedures and additional conditions are used.

Do some factors have an influence on the results?

Conceptual/ construct replication

Re-testing the same theoretical idea or hypothesis using different populations or methods.

Case studies

- case: individual, group, community, or organization
- qualitative research design / strategy
- reports of specific instances of interesting phenomena
- often used in medicine (e.g., previously unknown or emerging pathologies)
- possible main goals:
  - illustrate a problem in depth
  - indicate ways to solve the problem
  - highlight research needs, practical applications, or theoretical matters

Case study as a research design / strategy

Useful source

Stake, R. E. (1995). *The art of case study research*. SAGE Publications. (physical copy in JYU library)

Available in JYKDOK in SAGE Research Methods Online:

- Mills, A. J., Durepos, G. & Wiebe, E. (2010). *Encyclopedia of case study research.* SAGE Publications.
- Simons, H. (2009). *Case study research in practice.* SAGE Publications.
- Yin, R. K. (2009). How to do better case studies: (with illustrations from 20 exemplary case studies). In Bickman, L. & Rog, D. J. (Eds.), *The SAGE handbook of applied social research methods* (pp. 254–282). SAGE Publications.

Review papers

- often written by leaders in a particular discipline after editor invitation
- widely read and highly cited (→ review journals: high IF)
- synthesize and evaluate the recent primary literature on a topic
- identify similarities and differences (e.g., approaches, definitions, research results) point out contradictions, inconsistencies, or gaps
- provide a critical perspective on the current state of research and where it is heading
- recommend future research

Main types of review papers

Traditional (narrative) literature review

Systematic review

(including meta-analysis and best evidence synthesis)

Other (e.g., scoping review)

Main types of review papers

1. TRADITIONAL (NARRATIVE) LITERATURE REVIEW
    - only a subset of studies are reviewed, selected by the author (risk of selection bias!) → may not be comprehensive
    - answers a broader question

Specific types based on aim (there can be more than one aim in a paper). For example:

- the evolution of a particular theory and how it has shaped research in a field
- a survey of the development of a particular field of study
- ”state-of-the-art” review: current or emerging trends on a given topic, identifying research priorities
- synthesizing the literature from two different perspectives (e.g., two disciplines)
- focusing on research methodologies

Main types of review papers (cont.)

2. SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

- systematic and explicit methods to identify, select, and critically evaluate all relevant research
- answering a narrow (specific) research question
- explicit search criteria and criteria for inclusion/exclusion
- it can be replicated/updated → less bias and more transparency

Subtypes:

- **Meta-analysis** = statistical methods are used to combine evidence from several conceptually similar scientific (quantitative) studies
- **Best-evidence synthesis**: systematic review with quality evaluation, focusing only on high-quality evidence (studies with high internal and external validity) (e.g., Cochrane review in medical research)

Useful links (information and tools):

https://guides.temple.edu/c.php?g=78618&p=4178713
https://guides.nyu.edu/healthwriting/literature-reviews-synthesis-tools
https://guides.temple.edu/systematicreviews/SRTools

PRISMA reporting guidelines

PRISMA (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses): a minimum set of items for reporting in systematic reviews and meta-analyses
http://www.prisma-statement.org/

An international initiative http://www.equator-network.org/

Some other types of reviews

- **Scoping review**

  To identify knowledge gaps, scan a large body of literature, clarify concepts, or investigate research methodology. Helpful precursors to systematic reviews.
- Evidence mapping
- Rapid evidence assessment
- (Qualitative) meta-synthesis
- Integrative review

Useful link: https://guides.temple.edu/c.php?g=78618&p=3879604 (*Review types* on the left)

Theoretical articles

- no empirical data collection, drawing on existing research literature
- to advance theory, provide a value-added contribution to current thinking, challenge scholars' current views
  - can present a completely new (original) theory
  - expand / refine a theoretical constructs or a theory, or
  - critically evaluate existing theories (pointing out flaws, or demonstrate advantages of one theory over another)
- well-founded, convincing argumentation (= longer essay), explicit views

Methodological articles

- present new methodological approaches, modifications of existing methods, or discussions of existing approaches to data collection or analysis
- allow other researchers to compare the proposed methods with those in current use and assess whether they can implement the proposed new methods (provide sufficient detail)
- highly technical materials: appendices or supplementary materials

Some other types of articles

- **Proceedings papers (PP)** (separate document category in WoS)
  - journal articles **initially presented at a conference and later adapted for publication in a journal**
  - published in an **ordinary journal issue** or in a **special monographic issue** devoted to a particular conference (González-Albo & Bordons, 2011 – articles vs. proceedings papers)
- **Policy papers**
- Brief reports / Rapid communications / Letters
- Perspectives
- Position papers
- Opinion pieces
- Discussion notes/ papers
- (Short) Commentaries
- Book reviews

More on perspectives, opinion pieces and commentaries:

- https://www.editage.com/insights/a-young-researchers-guide-to-perspective-commentary-and-opinion-articles
- https://www.enago.com/academy/perspective-opinion-and-commentary-pieces/

Check the **manuscript categories** used by your **target journal**!

Submit your manuscript only to **one journal at a time**.

Piecemeal / fragmented publication (APA)

Can be **misleading** as the published articles **appear to represent independent instances of data collection or analyses**.

BUT

”**Data that can be meaningfully combined within a single article should be presented together** to enhance effective communication.”(APA, p. 19)

In some cases it is **both necessary and appropriate** to publish multiple articles based on the same or closely related research (e.g., **longitudinal studies, some qualitative and mixed-methods studies**)

Happel, B. (2016). Salami: By the slice or swallowed whole? *Applied Nursing Research, 30*, 2–31. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apnr.2015.08.011

Morse, J. M. (2005). Feigning independence: the article dissertation. *Qualitative Health Research*, *15*(9), 1147–1148. https://doi.org/10.1177/1049732305281328

Planning the publication
Choosing an appropriate journal

The importance of journal selection

Select a journal *before* starting to write the article.

1. Meet the **journal's requirements** (e.g., article type, length, citation style)
2. Reach the **most suitable audiences** (journal type, aim and scope)
3. Gear the paper to a **specific audience** (e.g., content, language use, structure)
4. Gain **due recognition** (e.g., journal's prestige)
5. Recieve **sound** and **fair review** (the editor(s) and reviewers should be familiar with your area)
6. **Visibility** (open access)
7. **Publication charges**
8. **Publication time**

Boston College Libraries (2017a, 2017b, 2017f), Gastel & Day (2016)

How to identify potential journals?

1. Ask your **supervisors, seniors, established colleagues,** or **fellow researchers** which journals they read regularly, which ones are considered prestigious and where they have published.
2. Check **where recent papers related to your topic have been published** (esp. the articles you cite)
3. Run a **Web of Science** search with keywords → click on the purple tile **Analyze results** next to the search box (select *Publication titles* from the purple dropdown menu to see relevant journals).
4. Run a search in **Scopus** (through JYKDOK) for **Keywords**, check *Source title* on the left to see relevant journals (you can also use *Analyze results* on top and then *Documents per year by source*)
5. Search on the **website of major academic publishers** (e.g., Springer, Elsevier, Taylor & Francis, Wiley, SAGE, Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press)

Belcher (2019), Boston College Libraries (2017a, 2017b, 2017f) Gastel & Day (2016)

6. JYKDOK – **Browse for journals** function (search with relevant keywords in journal titles)
7. **Master journal list** (by the Web of Science)
8. Search also with **method terms** (if you use a specific method)
9. Find **Calls for Papers (or special / themed issues)** on publishers' websites or by a Google search
10. Try **journal finders**
    - Elsevier journal finder
    - Springer journal suggester
    - Taylor and Francis journal suggester
    - Wiley journal finder
    - Open access journal finder by Enago
    - Elsevier open access journals (scroll down to Search)
    - Education journals in ERIC

Finding information about journals

Cabells database (through JYKDOK)

- **Journalitics** tab on top – type in the journal's name to see more information about it
  E.g., launch date, sponsors, journal type, country, article length, citation style, metrics, acceptance rates, difficulty of acceptance from various fields, percentage of invited articles, time to peer review, time to first decision, time to publication, type of peer review)
- **Predatory reports** – predatory journals

It's a good idea to also check the journal's own website (or its Wikipedia site).

American Psychology Association (APA) **Journal Acceptance Rates**

Pre-submission inquiry

If you are unsure, contact the **editor prior to submission** to ask if the article would be **suitable**.

- **Do not send query letters to top journals**
- **Always check the journal's aims & scope and submission guidelines first (incl. article types)**
- Use your university e-mail account
- Address the editor by name in the salutation
- Mention any previous correspondence or connections (e.g., X recommended the journal or that you contact the editor)
- State why you think the journal (and its readers) might find the article interesting
- Indicate that you know the journal (e.g., refer to recent articles published in it)
- Give some information about your article (topic, aims or main argument, nature of evidence)
- Provide your title and abstract, length, grants (if any), possible awards (e.g., at a conference)
- State whether the article has been published before (ideally not)
- **Indicate why you are concerned with your submission (why you think it might not be suitable)**

Journal rankings

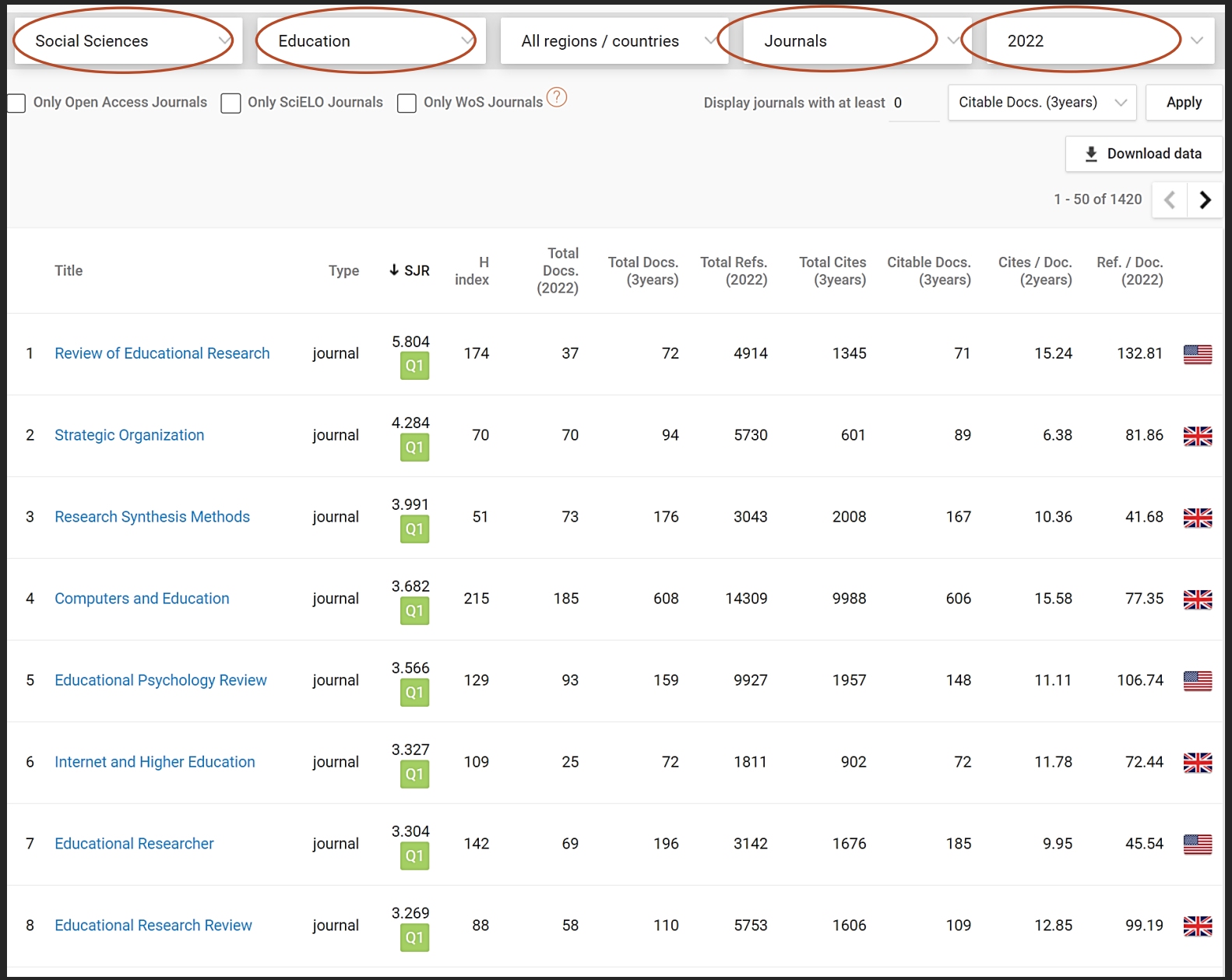
- **Journal Citation Reports** (JCR) (WoS) – subscription needed (publishes **Impact Factors**)
- **SCimago Journal Rank** weighs citations from journals according to how highly cited the journal itself is. Uses Scopus data → see next slide
- **Julkaisufoorumi (JUFO) – publication channel search** (the Finnish perspective):

  1 = basic; 2 = leading; 3 = top

SCImago journal rank

Top education journals

https://www.scimagojr.com/journalrank.php

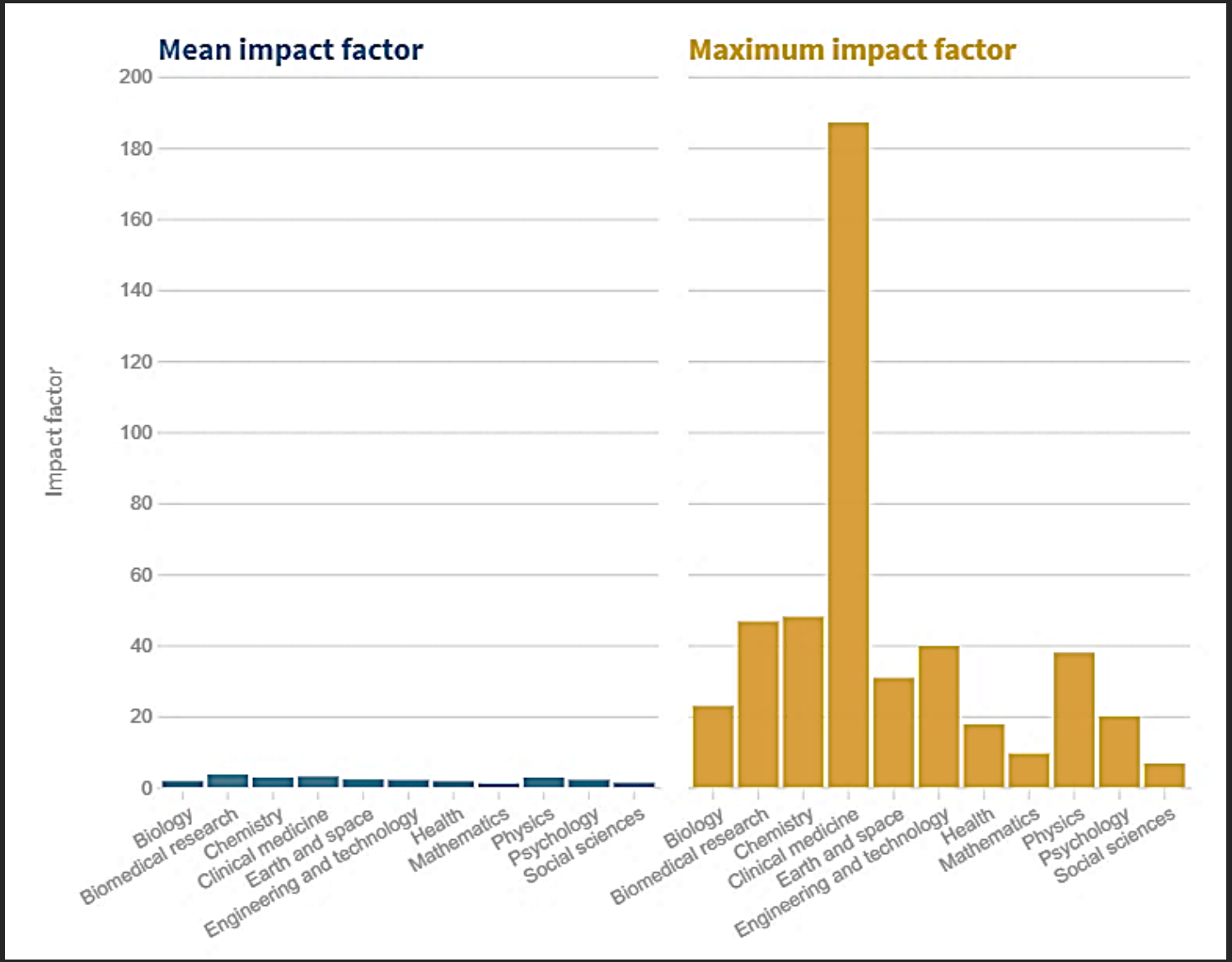


	Title	Type	SJR	H index	Total Docs. (2022)	Total Docs. (3years)	Total Refs. (2022)	Total Cites (3years)	Citable Docs. (3years)	Cites / Doc. (2years)	Ref. / Doc. (2022)
1	Review of Educational Research	journal	5.804 Q1	174	37	72	4914	1345	71	15.24	132.81
2	Strategic Organization	journal	4.284 Q1	70	70	94	5730	601	89	6.38	81.86
3	Research Synthesis Methods	journal	3.991 Q1	51	73	176	3043	2008	167	10.36	41.68
4	Computers and Education	journal	3.682 Q1	215	185	608	14309	9988	606	15.58	77.35
5	Educational Psychology Review	journal	3.566 Q1	129	93	159	9927	1957	148	11.11	106.74
6	Internet and Higher Education	journal	3.327 Q1	109	25	72	1811	902	72	11.78	72.44
7	Educational Researcher	journal	3.304 Q1	142	69	196	3142	1676	185	9.95	45.54
8	Educational Research Review	journal	3.269 Q1	88	58	110	5753	1606	109	12.85	99.19

Journal Impact Factor (JIF) – notes

1. It does *not* say anything about the quality of research reported in individual articles.
2. Scholars often cite articles other than research articles (e.g., editorials, letters to the editor).
3. High citation rates are not always related to quality (notorious / retracted articles are often highly cited).
4. A small number of highly cited articles can skew the figure.
5. Review articles are often highly cited → review journals on the top of the rankings.
6. New journals have few or no citations yet.
7. Articles that cite an article published in the same journal can skew the figure.
8. Different disciplinary practices regarding the average # of citations and older citations (partial solution: 5-year impact factor) → comparing journals across disciplines is problematic
9. Several authors to one paper → subsequent self-citations increase overall citation rates.
10. Overall inflation of IF: average IF from 1.13 in 1997 to 2.18 in 2016 (Singh Chawla, 2018)

Boston College Libraries (2017c), Singh Chawla (2018)

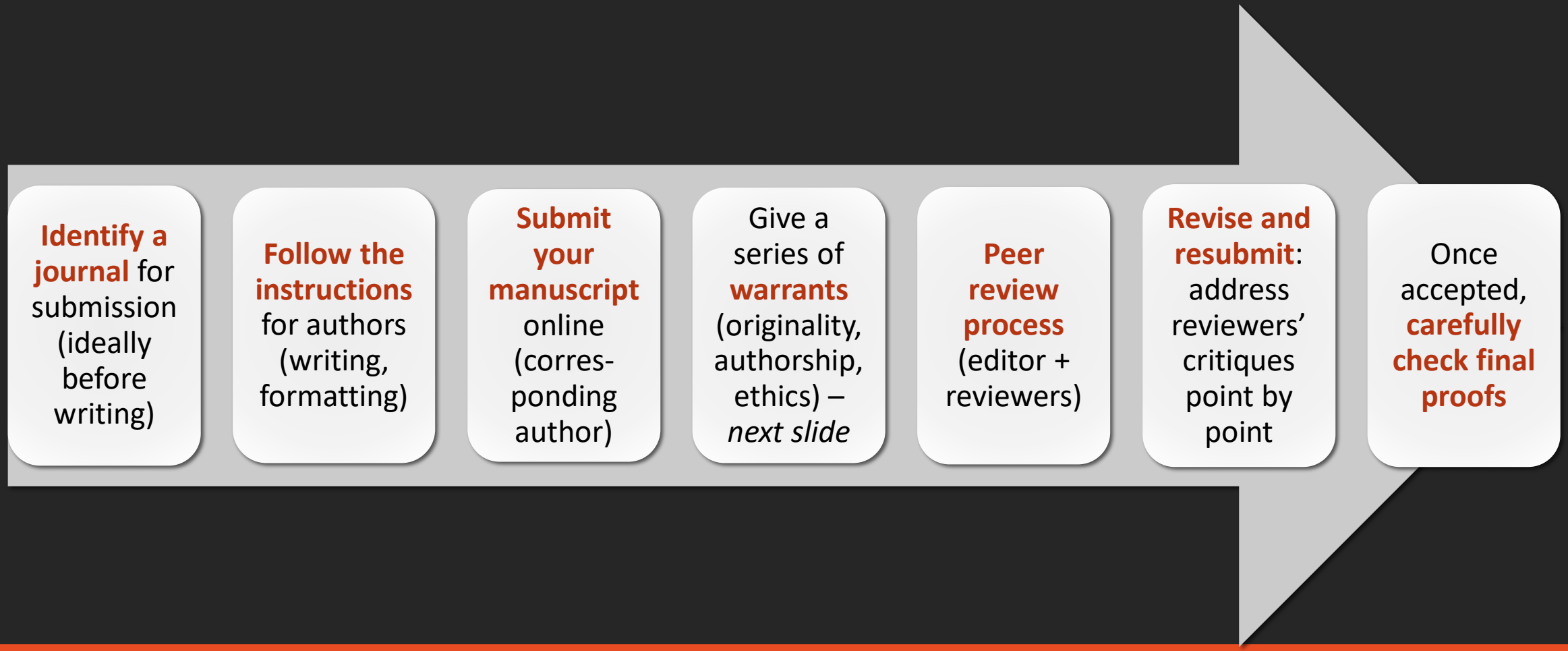


Problems with comparing journal impact factors

Singh Chawla (2018)

Submitting an article
Writing the submission cover letter

The submission process



Giving warrants

- **Authorship** warrant: Are you the sole author(s)?
- **Copyright ownership** warrant: Do you own the copyright? *(The only reason you don't is if you have published the paper previously and signed over the copyright to that publisher).*
- **Previous publication** warrant: previous conference *presentations* are fine. However, you need permission from the editor if:
  - your **conference paper** has been **posted online**
  - **more than 10% of the article has been published previously** (e.g., conference proceedings)
  - your article has been published in **another language**
- **Not currently under submission** warrant: you can only submit your article to 1 journal
- **Human subject research** warrant: Does your article meet the ethical requirements for research on human subjects? Did you get approval from your institutional review board?
- **Conflicts of interest** warrant: a statement about any potential conflicts of interest (e.g., corporate funding)
- **Plagiarism** warrant

Elsevier's policy on using AI

The Use of Generative AI and AI-assisted Technologies in Scientific Writing

The policy only refers to the **writing process** (not to data analysis & interpretation)

"Where authors use generative AI and AI-assisted technologies **in the writing process**, **these technologies should only be used to improve readability and language of the work**. Applying the technology should be done with **human oversight and control** and authors should **carefully review and edit the result**, because AI can generate authoritative-sounding output that can be incorrect, incomplete or biased. The authors are ultimately responsible and accountable for the contents of the work".

"Authors should **disclose** in their manuscript the use of AI and AI-assisted technologies and **a statement will appear in the published work**". → transparency, trust

Further information: the use of AI and AI-assisted writing technologies in scientific writing FAQs. https://www.elsevier.com/about/policies/publishing-ethics#Authors

Example: Systems (Elsevier journal)

https://www.elsevier.com/journals/system/0346-251X/guide-for-authors

BEFORE YOU BEGIN section:

Declaration of generative AI in scientific writing

Authors must **disclose** the use of generative AI and AI-assisted technologies **in the writing process** by adding a **statement** at the end of their manuscript in the core manuscript file, **before the References list**. The statement should be placed in a new section entitled '**Declaration of Generative AI and AI-assisted technologies in the writing process**'.

During the preparation of this work the author(s) used [NAME TOOL / SERVICE] in order to [REASON]. After using this tool/service, the author(s) reviewed and edited the content as needed and take(s) full responsibility for the content of the publication.

How to remain anonymous in the double-blind peer review process?

Check the relevant publisher's/journal's guidelines

- Elsevier:
  https://www.elsevier.com/reviewers/what-is-peer-review/peer-review-guidelines
- Taylor & Francis:
  https://authorservices.taylorandfrancis.com/peer-review/anonymous-peer-review/;
  https://www.tandf.co.uk//journals/pdf/Author/anonymous_peer_review.pdf (good technical tips)

Removing personal information in a Word document:

- Right click on the file
- Select Properties
- Go to the Details tab
- At the bottom, click on **Remove Properties and Personal Information**
- Select Create a copy with all personal information removed

Submission cover letter

Most journals have an **electronic submission systems** → cover letter **not** needed

However, you (may) need a cover letter when:

- Submitting your article **directly to the editor of a special / themed issue**
- Submitting your article to a **journal that uses traditional e-mail submission**

Writing the submission cover letter

- Length: **½ – 1 page**
- Use your **university e-mail** (not a personal one)
- Place the cover letter in the **body of the e-mail** (not as an attachment)
- Use the editor's **full name** (e.g., **Dear Dr. [First and Last Name]** not Dear Editor)
- State your **research interest**
- Include the **title** of your article
- Remind the editor of any **previous communication** between you (e.g., query letter, request to submit article)
- Mention any related **awards** for the article itself (e.g., best paper in conference) or **awards to fund** the research
- Mention any related **buzz** (e.g., sparking a heated debate at a conference/on social media)
- State the article's **contribution**

Belcher (2019, pp. 348-350)

Writing the submission cover letter (cont.)

- Describe the **appeal to the readers** (journal aims & scope, articles previously published in the journal with the same/similar topic)
- State **why you chose this journal** (e.g., prestige, publishing innovative research)
- Give **warrants** (authorship, copyright, etc.)
- Give the **word count**
- Mention any **permissions** you have obtained (e.g., for reproducing illustrations or text under copyright)
- Mention any **funding** (public/ corporate)
- Mention any **related publications** in **prestigious** journals
- Do **not** mention your **status** (e.g., PhD student)
- Be **meticulous** (no typos, font, use paragraphs, spelling of the editor's name)

Belcher (2019, pp. 348-350)

Waiting time

- **Acknowledgement of submission**: immediately (electronic submission) or within 1 week
- **Rejection**: 1 day or 1–2 weeks
- **No notification that the article has been sent to peer review**: contact the editor after about a month

Reviewers' comments: a few weeks to several months. Some journals take 18 months or more!

Do not hurry the editor!

BUT: You can e-mail the editor after a few months to inquire about the status of your article. **Sometimes the editor can use your e-mail to "nag" the reviewers.**

Types of peer review
The peer review process

Types of peer review

SINGLE-BLIND

The authors do not know who the reviewers are, but **the reviewers know the author(s)**.

- Reviewer bias (e.g., author's gender, prestigious institutions, reputation/nationality, language use, conflict of interest can influence the review)
- Reviewers can delay publication (competition in the same research field)
+ / - Knowledge of the author's previous research (this background knowledge can overshadow the quality of the article)

DOUBLE-BLIND

Both the **reviewers** and the **author(s)** remain **anonymous**.

+ Can (partly) prevent reviewer bias

  Note: reviewers can often make guesses about the author's identity (writing style, area of research, references) → *next slide*

+ Reviewers can evaluate the articles more frankly (vs. open review) – no fear of criticism or retribution from the author(s) later

Elsevier (2017), Wiley (n.d.)

Table 1
Aspects of Author Identity Guessed by Reviewers

	n	%
Author's experience in field	43	61.4
Author's disciplinary backgrounds	34	48.6
Author's language background	30	42.9
Author's nationality	23	32.9
Author's gender	19	27.1
Author's institutional affiliation	16	22.9
Author's level of education	11	15.7
Author's ethnic background	10	14.3
Author's age	10	14.3
Other	8	11.4

Table 2
Clues Used for Constructing Author Identity

	n	%
Breadth or depth of knowledge (or lack thereof)	43	61.4
Choice of topic	40	57.1
The author's representation of the field	33	47.1
Description of the research setting	29	41.4
Signs of the author's language background	29	41.4
Use of particular sentence structures	28	40.0
Choice of the theoretical framework	27	38.6
The author's representation of other researchers in the field	26	37.1
Use of particular terms	23	32.9
Use of particular writing conventions	23	32.9
Sign of careful editing or lack thereof	23	32.9
Consistencies or inconsistencies in writing style	20	28.6
Choice of research method	19	27.1
Pattern in the citation of sources	18	25.7
Pattern in the list of references	16	22.9
Formatting of the manuscript	16	22.9
Use of particular genre conventions	15	21.4
Choice of journal to submit the manuscript	9	12.9
Use of citation style	5	7.1
Other	4	5.7

Reviewers constructing author identity in blind peer review

Tardy & Matsuda (2009, p. 40 and p. 42)

Alternative types of peer review

OPEN PEER REVIEW: **reviewer and author are both known** to each other

+ encourage open, honest reviewing
+ prevent reviewers from following their personal agenda or making malicious comments
+ more recognition for reviewers → deeper, more constructive reports
- reviewers might tone down their criticism (politeness or for fear of retribution) → less honest
- some reviewers might not want to criticize their seniors (cultural differences)

TRANSPARENT PEER REVIEW = the whole review process is made public (optional) (previous versions of the article, reviewer reports and author responses) → *example on the next slide*

COLLABORATIVE PEER REVIEW: a team of reviewers work together and submit a unified report (or one or two reviewers collaborate with the author to improve the paper)

POST-PUBLICATION COMMENTARY: new approach adopted by some OA journals. Readers (typically other researchers) can post comments on a published paper on an OA platform (e.g., PubPeer), comments page or discussion forum. The editor can mediate the comments.

Elsevier (2017), Wiley (n.d.).

OPEN ACCESS PEER-REVIEWED

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Mental disorders and intimate partner violence perpetrated by men towards women: A Swedish population-based longitudinal study

Rongqin Yu, Alejo J. Nevado-Holgado, Yasmina Molero, Brian M. D'Onofrio, Henrik Larsson, Louise M. Howard, Seena Fazel

Published: December 17, 2019 • https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002995

0 Save | 0 Citation | 6,055 View | 0 Share

Article | Authors | Metrics | Comments | Media Coverage | Peer Review

Download PDF | Print | Share

Peer Review History

Original Submission	July 11, 2019
Decision Letter - Caitlin Moyer, Editor	September 9, 2019
Revision 1	
Author Response	September 25, 2019

Attachments
Attachment
Submitted filename: *Responses to reviewers PMEDICINE-D-19-02530..pdf*

Check for updates

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80 NEW Research Articles from

Transparent peer review example

PLOS One journal:

Peer review history (editor's decision letter, author's response)

Reviewers can choose to remain anonymous.

Author-suggested peer review

Controversial practice. Authors might be in an **ethically difficult** situation.

Tips if you are asked to suggest possible reviewers:

- **Explore** the research field to find scholars who might be interested to review your work (someone who has **published** papers with a **similar topic**).
- Only recommend **experts** in the field.
- Try to find reviewers from a **different country**.
- Do not suggest reviewers that have a **potential conflict of interest:**
  - From the **same institution, supervisors, thesis committee members**
  - **Friends, relatives, spouse**
  - **Colleagues or researchers you have collaborated/published with** in the past few years or with whom you are **currently writing a grant application or manuscript**

More information: https://www.enago.com/academy/suggest-reviewers-paper/ and https://www.natureindex.com/news-blog/dont-let-researchers-choose-who-peer-reviews-their-work

Roles

Example:

Editorial board structure at Wiley

https://authorservices.wiley.com/editors/editorial-office-guidelines/editorial-board.html

Managing editor

- Used by some journals to check for **technical issues before the Editor gets the manuscript** (e.g., abstract, keywords, institutional e-mail, funding agency, plagiarism)

Editor-in-chief/Editor

- Responsible for the **content** of the journal
- Directs the journal's overall **strategy** (in cooperation with the publisher)
- **Main contact person**
- **Reviews and decides upon submitted manuscripts**
- **Commissions content and answers submission enquiries**

Associate editor(s)

- 1 or more (depending on the size of the journal)
- Their exact **role varies** from journal to journal
- Typically, they **send the manuscripts to the reviewers**

Editorial board

- Advise on journal strategy (e.g, special issue)
- **Potential reviewers** (there is also often a separate **Panel of Reviewers**)
- Add **credibility** to the journal

Editor’s initial decision

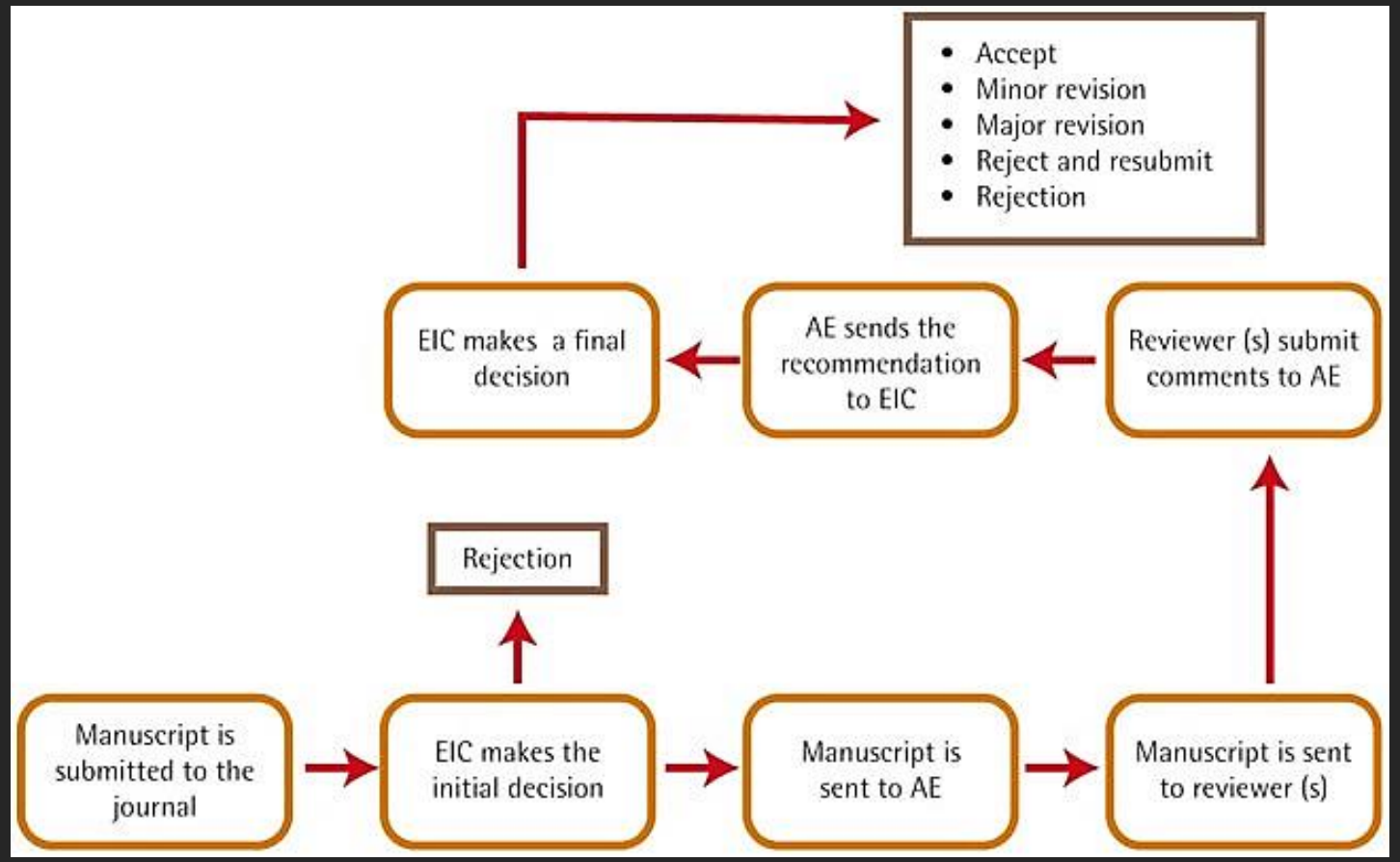
After the initial screening by the **editor** (**before** the actual per review):

Return without review (”desk rejection”): Issues with scope, technical issues, poor quality or poor language

Recommend transfer to another journal (if it is the same publisher, it could be an internal process) → optional: **peer review cascade** (peer review reports are also transferred)

Accepted for peer review: the manuscript is sent for 2–3 (sometimes more) reviewers

The peer review process



EIC: Editor-in-Chief

AE: Associate Editor

Your chances of acceptance **double when you revise your manuscript!**

It is always the **editor** who makes the final decision. (The reviewers' comments are only recommendations).

Faggion (2016)

After the peer review

- **Reject** (cannot be published even with substantial revisions) → find a different journal
- **Revise and resubmit**
  - **Major revisions needed** (typically sent to the same reviewers in the second round, but it could be the editor only, or different reviewers if the editor feels the paper could benefit from fresh perspectives) – read journal policy or ask the editor
  - **Minor revisions needed** (rare – might not be sent for a second round of peer-review)
- **Accept in its present form** (almost never)

Minor vs. major revision

Examples of minor revision

- rewriting the abstract
- developing the Introduction or Conclusion
- clarifying the Methods section
- revising in-text citations
- adding a few references
- revising terms and definitions
- refining the argumentation
- stylistic and language errors

Examples of major revision

- rewriting the main sections (esp. Methods, Results, or Discussion)
- restructuring the whole paper
- significantly shortening/lengthening the article
- reviewing a new body of literature
- interpreting the evidence differently
- repairing theoretical or methodological flaws

The **evaluation form (instruction for reviewers)** is sometimes **made public** on the journal's website. It is useful to get familiar with this.

What do reviewers look for?

"When an article's **value** is **immediately clear**, this is a big incentive to reviewers, who now anticipate that the review process will be uncomplicated and that their labor will result in a published article."
(Belcher, 2019, p. 281)

"[Your] **abstract, intro and conclusion are 80%** of your paper from the perspective of a referee".
(Belcher, 2019, p. 282)

"About 60% of reviewers' criticisms pertain to the **quality of the writing or tables and graphs**; and about 40% pertain to the quality of the scientific work."
(Iles, 1997, as cited in Sainani, n.d.)

"On an average, editors and editorial offices filter out or reject around 25% submissions on the basis of **limited scope, poor quality, or technical issues**."
(Elsevier Researcher Academy, n.d.)

Common reasons for rejection

Brief interview with expert reviewers (medical sciences) on editage.com:

Dr. John Cooper

The four most common reasons for rejection:

1. Concerns about the **methodology** used and the effect those methodological questions have on potential results.
2. **Incorrect or overreaching conclusions** drawn from the results presented.
3. A **poorly-edited** manuscript with an **abundance of typographical and grammatical errors** throughout.
4. A well-done study, but one that **doesn't fit with the purpose or scope** of the particular journal.

Impact
Communicating beyond academia

What is impact?

Ennser-Kananen, J., Károly, A., & Saarinen, T. (2022). Assemblages of language, impact and research. *Apples - Journal of Applied Language Studies*, *16*(3), 69–86. https://doi.org/10.47862/apples.114943

SCIENTIFIC IMPACT

Impact on the **scientific community.**
Evaluation ”regimes”.

Metrics (citation-based):

- **Journal level**
  E.g., Journal Impact Factor, CiteScore, Eigenfactor score, TOP factor
- **Article-level**
  E.g., Article-influence score
- **Individual author level**
  E.g., H-index, Eigenfactor author-level index

SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT

(POLICY, PROFESSIONAL, POPULAR)

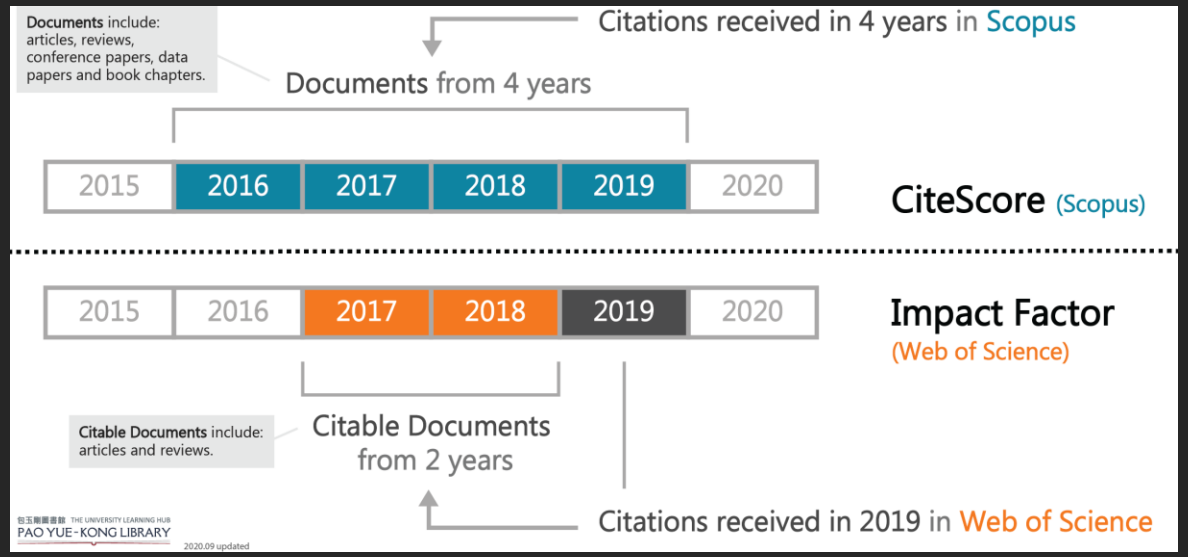
Direct/indirect, tangible/intangible (positive) influence on **individuals, communities, society, practitioners, people working in the profession, or policy-making** in various places

E.g., new information, knowledge, new product, service, technology, jobs, companies.

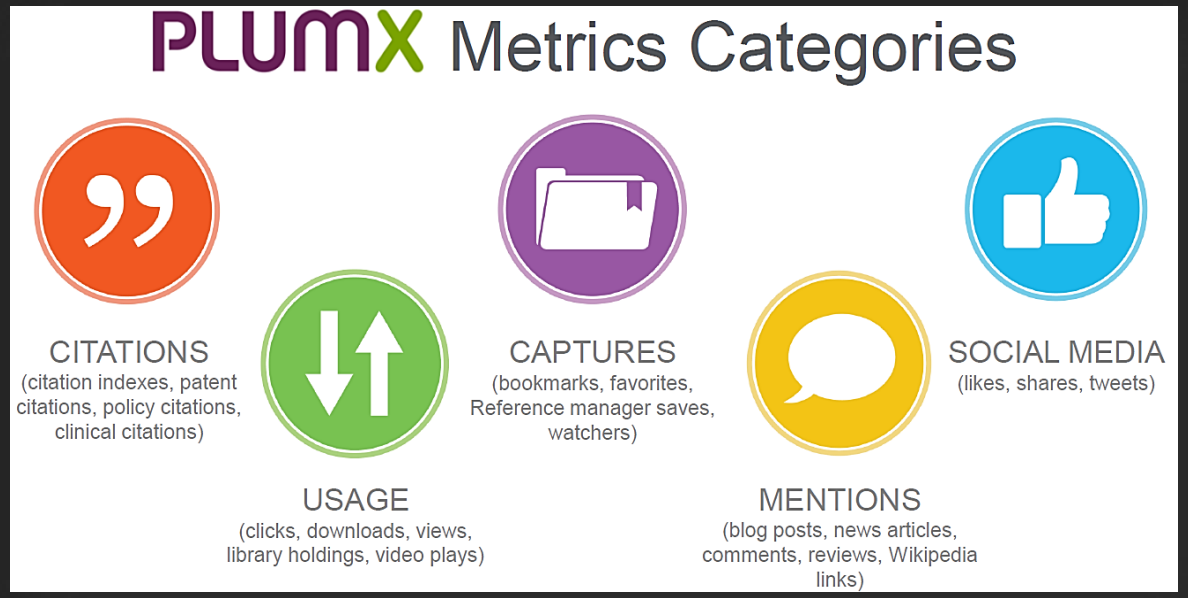
- **More difficult to measure** (esp. time aspect)

Altmetrics: Faster and more comprehensive measurement, looking at **the whole process of research & collaboration** (e.g., PlumX).

CiteScore vs. Journal Impact Factor



https://libguides.lb.polyu.edu.hk/journalimpact/citescore#sthash.UEjxvfHC.wLxuE9D0.dpbs



https://blog.scopus.com/posts/plumx-metrics-api-now-available-for-scopus-subscribers

PlumX (Elsevier)

Article-level altmetric
For peer-reviewed journal **articles**

Overton

Policy impact of research

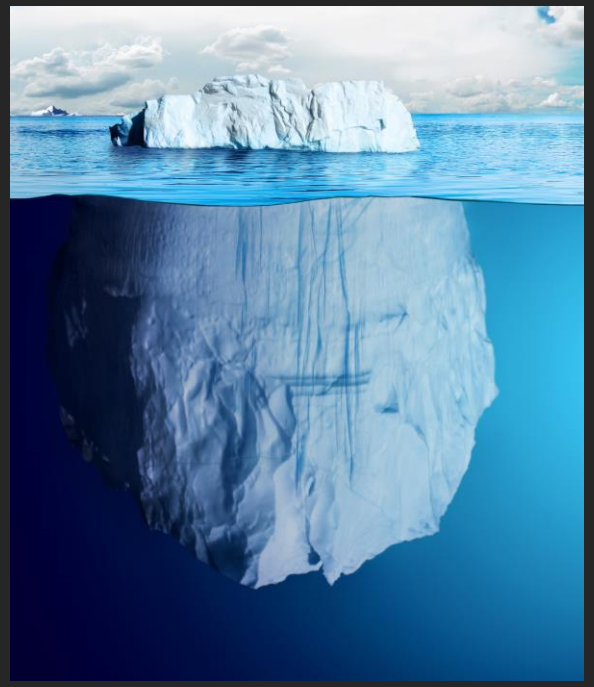
Overton database

Access via the library's database

Jykdok (University of Jyväskylä): https://jyu.finna.fi/Record/jykdok.2079109

- The world's largest searchable index of **policy documents, guidelines, think tank publications,** and **working papers**.
- Policy impact of individual **researchers** and published **scholarly articles**.
- You can also check **your department's** current standing in the **Policy Impact Metrics**: https://oscsolutions.cc.jyu.fi/policyimpact/

Languages and translation in multilingual research and writing for publication



- Language of **publication** (often English only)

  → direct quotes in other languages, using/referencing non-English sources?

- Language(s) during the **entire research process** (multilingual)

  → participants, data collection, translation, communication between research team members, etc.)

The Helsinki Initiative on multilingualism in scholarly communication: https://www.helsinki-initiative.org/

Károly, A. (2022). Translation and dealing with "the other" in scholarly research and publishing: A call for more reflexivity. *Apples - Journal of Applied Language Studies*, *16*(3), 87–101. https://doi.org/10.47862/apples.114741

Benefits of communicating beyond academia?

1. Increasing **your visibility** as a researcher, disseminating **your own research results**
2. Making **science** more **transparent**, **open**, and **visible**
3. Increasing the **prestige** of and **trust** in science
4. Fight against **mis/disinformation** (e.g., non-expert influencers with a strong digital presence)
5. Raising **public awareness** about an issue, disseminating **scientific information** to wider audiences (e.g., vaccines)
6. **Engaging in public discourse** and **influencing practice and societal decision-making**
7. Improving critical / **scientific literacy** (understanding the self-corrective nature of scientific progress – no absolute truths but statements of probability)
8. **Educating children** and **young people**: providing role-models for future generations
9. Increasing **public participation** in scientific research projects → **citizen science**

The Committee of Public Information Finland (2018). *Bold communication, responsible influence. Science communication recommendations*. https://www.tjnk.fi/sites/tjnk.fi/files/recom_scicommunication_2018.pdf
The Committee of Public Information Finland (2021). *Scientific literacy changes the world. Science education recommendations*. https://tjnk.fi/en/tjnk/publications/science-education-recommendations

Challenges and risks?

1. **Time, pressure to publish scientific articles**
2. **Funding** opportunities
3. **Opportunities** for societal interaction or innovation
4. **Status of scholars / researchers** in a particular country
5. **Freedom of research** or **freedom of expression** for scientists / researchers in general or in certain fields
6. **General public attitude towards science**
7. **Inappropriate** (intolerant, offensive or even threatening) **comments** from individuals or groups, **hate speech**

Public events

Seminar, café, workshop, course, camp, lecture, TED/TEDx talk, Researchers' Night

Media

TV/ radio interview, podcast

Popular newspaper/ magazine article

Trade journal articles (for professionals/ practitioners)

Press release about your research, publication, project, PhD dissertation

Social media

Academic social networking sites

ResearchGate, Academia.edu, Mendeley – discussion forums

Academic blogs

Personal websites

Popular books

Non-fiction, science, including for children

General reference works

(e.g., Wikipedia)

Media and entertainment

Movies / documentaries / TV series (including for children)

Collaborating with **artists** and specialists → multisensory content (e.g., gamification)

Science education (formal or informal)

Science centres, exhibitions, museums, clubs, teaching & learning resources), random encounters (e.g., in a school, library, shopping centre, public transport, sports club)

Collaborating with think tanks (policy institutes)

Research & advocacy, e.g., Demos Helsinki

Thank you!

Feedback form

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