

Choosing a Journal

Online course learning objectives

This course provides practical guidance for selecting the most appropriate journal for your research. Learners will explore the factors that influence journal selection, evaluate different publication models, assess the suitability of their own manuscripts, and develop the skills needed to identify journals that align with their research goals. The course also examines how editors evaluate submissions and how to recognize and avoid predatory publishers.

This course will help learners to:

- Identify key factors to consider when evaluating and selecting a journal for your research
- Evaluate different publication models and use this knowledge to make informed publishing decisions
- Assess the suitability of your manuscript for different journals based on scope, article type, and editorial expectations
- Explain the qualities editors look for when determining whether a manuscript is appropriate for review and publication
- Compare and contrast journals using relevant evaluation criteria to support journal selection.
- Identify the warning signs of predatory publishers and journals
- Select the most appropriate journal for your research and publishing objectives

Language: English

Time to complete: 1.5 hours

Level: Beginner

Online course full syllabus

MODULE ONE: WHERE TO START WHEN CHOOSING A JOURNAL

This module introduces the key considerations involved in selecting a journal and explores the range of publishing models available to researchers. Learners will develop the knowledge needed to make informed decisions about potential publication venues for their work.

This module will help you to:

- Identify the key considerations when evaluating journals
- Identify the different types of publication models in order to make informed decisions about where best to publish your article

Topics:

1. What Should You Consider First?
2. Open Access vs Subscription Journals



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MODULE TWO: EVALUATING YOUR OWN ARTICLE

This module focuses on assessing the suitability of a manuscript for publication. Learners will explore different article types, consider how manuscripts align with journal scope and requirements, and gain insight into the factors editors use when evaluating submissions.

This module will help you to:

- Recognize the different types of journal articles
- Prepare manuscripts that fit the journal scope and have the adequate qualities to be reviewed and accepted
- Become familiar with the key things that an editor looks at when deciding whether an article is a suitable fit for a journal

Topics:

1. Article Types
2. Is Your Submission Adequate for Review?
3. What Editors Look For

MODULE THREE: EVALUATING THE JOURNAL

This module examines the factors that researchers should consider when comparing journals and making a final publication decision. Learners will also explore how to identify predatory publishers and evaluate journal quality and suitability.

This module will help you to:

- Recognize the different factors to consider when evaluating journals
- Use these factors to compare and contrast journals to make your final journal selection
- Recognize the warning signs of predatory publishers
- Select the most appropriate journal for your research

Topics:

1. Is the Journal Suitable?
2. What Is the Journal's Process?
3. Does the Journal Have a Good Reputation?
4. Predatory Publishers