

How to Write a Journal Article Pt 1:

Putting your article together

Online course learning objectives

This course helps authors develop the skills to write, structure, and present a journal article for publication. Learners will strengthen their academic writing, avoid common pitfalls that can lead to rejection, and apply best practices for presenting research through text, tables, graphs, equations, and statistics.

This course will help learners to:

- Apply journal guidelines and best practices to structure and format a manuscript for submission and peer review
- Communicate research clearly and effectively using appropriate academic writing techniques and conventions
- Edit and proofread your work to improve clarity, accuracy, and professionalism while avoiding common reasons for manuscript rejection
- Select appropriate methods for presenting research data, including text, tables, graphs, statistics, and equations, according to the needs of the research and intended audience
- Apply best practices for presenting data clearly, accurately, and consistently in line with journal and disciplinary expectations
- Use effective article preparation and presentation strategies to strengthen the overall quality and publishability of your research

Language: English

Time to complete: 3 hours

Level: Beginner

Online course full syllabus

MODULE ONE: STRUCTURING YOUR ARTICLE

This module explores how to structure and format a journal article in accordance with journal requirements and publishing conventions. Learners will consider how effective article organization can help communicate research clearly and support a successful peer review process.

This module will help you to:

- Recognize the importance of structuring and formatting your journal article according to your journal's guidelines
- Apply these guidelines to ensure your article successfully progresses through the peer review process
- Use these suggestions as an outline to clarify your thinking, articulate your research, and present your article in the best light

How to Write a Journal Article Pt 1:

Putting your article together

Topics:

- Tips for Getting Started
- Guidelines and Structure
- Formatting
- Checklists

MODULE TWO: TIPS FOR WRITING

This module focuses on developing effective academic writing skills and improving manuscript quality through editing and proofreading. Learners will also explore common issues that can negatively affect the publication process.

This module will help you to:

- Use clear and academic language to convey your message to the editor and reviewers of your chosen journal
- Ensure your work is error free by editing and proofreading your work effectively
- Avoid other common mistakes that could lead to your article being rejected

Topics:

- Writing Clearly and Accurately
- Copyediting
- Proofreading
- The Foundations of a Poorly Written Article

MODULE THREE: PRESENTING DATA: TEXT AND TABLES

This module examines the principles of clear and transparent data presentation. Learners will explore how to select appropriate formats for presenting data and apply best practices when incorporating text and tables into a manuscript.

This module will help you to:

- Explain why clear and transparent data presentation is essential for supporting research conclusions and building reader trust
- Select the most appropriate format (text, tables, figures, or statistics) for presenting data based on study type, research question, and audience
- Apply best practices for presenting data clearly and consistently in text and tables in line with journal guidelines

Topics:

- Why Present Data?
- Presenting Data As Text
- Presenting Data in Tables

How to Write a Journal Article Pt 1:

Putting your article together

MODULE FOUR: PRESENTING DATA: GRAPHS, EQUATIONS AND STATISTICS

This module explores how graphs, equations, and statistics can be used to communicate research findings effectively. Learners will examine best practices for selecting, constructing, and presenting quantitative information.

This module will help you to:

- Identify when graphs are the most effective format for presenting research data and select appropriate graph types based on the nature of the data
- Apply best practices for constructing and labelling graphs, including titles, legends, and footnotes, to ensure clarity and consistency
- Present statistics and equations clearly and accurately, aligning their format and level of detail with journal guidelines and the target audience

Topics:

- Presenting Data in Graphs
- Equations and Statistics