

Scholarly Writing and Publication



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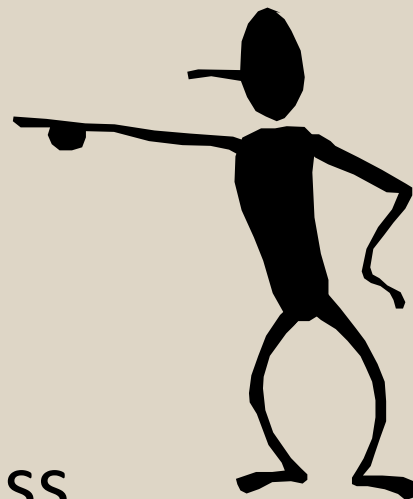
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Today's Topics

- Reasons to write
- Tips for doing writing
- Publication outlets in the field
- Tips for writing scholarly articles
- The review and publication process
- Final thoughts



Reasons to Write



Reasons to Write

- Scholarly writing is an expectation of university faculty members at most institutions, even those that may not have an overt research focus.
- So, in a very real sense, scholarly writing is a job expectation and a requirement for financial rewards and advancement in higher education.



Reasons to Write

- In addition, scholarly writing is a way to:
 - Share your ideas and research and so contribute to the knowledge base and dialogue in a discipline
 - Enhance your personal reputation and the reputation of your institution
 - Collaborate with others
 - Obtain personal satisfaction



Tips for Doing Writing



Tips for Doing Writing

- Scholarly writing is a skill like any other that requires time to develop and takes practice. So, write and write often!
- Set aside regular time, at least once each week, when you can work on doing writing.
- Read lots of current literature in the field to get a sense of what people are writing about and what academic writing looks like.



Tips for Doing Writing

- Set specific writing goals for yourself to accomplish each week, month, semester.
- Monitor yourself, and find the times that work best for you to do writing.
- Team with other students to write, read drafts, and provide each other with constructive feedback.
- Seek collaborators including faculty members and other graduate students.



Tips for Doing Writing

- Look for opportunities to write:
 - Research project → Journal article
 - Conference paper → Journal article
 - Course or pre-lim paper → Journal article
 - Special issue call → Journal article
 - Hot/new topic in the field → Journal article
- Be persistent! Some days, writing will flow, but others it will be a struggle. Keep at it. Write and write often!



Publication Outlets



Publication Outlets

- What are some of the key publications in our field of study?



Publication Outlets in LDT

- *Educational Technology Research & Development*
- *Computers & Education*
- *Journal of Educational Computing Research*
- *Journal of Research on Technology in Education*
- *Journal of the Learning Sciences*
- *Instructional Science*
- *British Journal of Educational Technology*
- *Performance Improvement Quarterly*
- *Educational Technology*



Publication Outlets in LDT

- *Education, Communication & Information*
- *Educause*
- *Interactive Learning Environments*
- *International Journal of Instructional Media*
- *Journal of Computing in Higher Education*
- *Journal of Educational Multimedia & Hypermedia*
- *Journal of Instructional Delivery Systems*
- *Journal of Interactive Learning Research*
- *Tech Trends*



Publication Outlets in LDT

- *American Journal of Distance Education*
- *Journal of Asynchronous Learning Networks*
- *International Journal on E-Learning*
- *International Review of Research in Open and Distance Learning*
- *Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication*
- *MERLOT Journal of Online Learning and Teaching*
- *Online Journal of Distance Learning Administration*
- *Open Learning*



Publication Outlets in LDT

- *Computers in the Schools*
- *Contemporary Issues in Technology and Teacher Education*
- *Journal of Information Technology for Teacher Education*
- *Journal of Technology and Teacher Education*
- *Leading and Learning with Technology*
- *Technology and Learning*



Tips for Writing Scholarly Articles



Tips for Writing Scholarly Articles

- Review journals to determine what they commonly publish.
 - Particular content focus?
 - Research or practitioner oriented?
 - Length and stylistic practices/requirements?
- Select an appropriate journal for a particular manuscript (e.g., don't send a practitioner article to a research journal).



Tips for Writing Scholarly Articles

- Carefully read the journal's information for authors, and adhere closely to the formatting and style requirements.
- Carefully proofread your manuscript before submission to ensure it is stylistically correct and free of errors.
- Ask one or two others to read your manuscript for content and clarity before submission.



Tips for Writing Scholarly Articles

- Give your article a clear and concise title.
- Include the following key components for research articles:
 - Abstract
 - Introduction
 - Literature Review / Theoretical Framework
 - Methodology
 - Results
 - Discussion and Conclusions

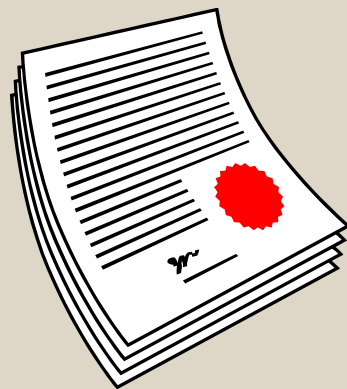


Tips for Writing Scholarly Articles

- Use active voice in your writing.
- Use a clear organizational structure with appropriate headings.
- Be thorough but concise. Journals unlike theses have space limitations, so eliminate unnecessary material and focus your content.
- Make sure your references are up-to-date, complete, and in the style required by the journal.



Journal Review and Publication Process



Review and Publication Process

- Manuscript requirements vary by journal. Be sure to read the information for authors, which often appears inside the journal or on the journal's website. (See [ETR&D](#).)
- Many journals now use an online submission system. For those that do not, prepare a short cover letter and submit the manuscript according to the directions.



Review and Publication Process

- Many journals require that manuscripts undergo blind review. If the journal requires blind review:
 - Prepare one version of the manuscript with author information included.
 - Prepare a second, blinded version of the manuscript in which all references to the author, the author's institution, and other identifying information are removed.



Review and Publication Process

- After submission, journals editors often first scan a manuscript to ensure that it fits the journal. Poor fits may be rejected without further review by the editor.
- If the content fits the journal, it is common for the editor to ask 2-4 reviewers to review the manuscript and make recommendations. This process ordinarily takes several months or more.



Review and Publication Process

- Following completion of reviews, the journal editor will synthesize the reviews, make a decision, and communicate it to you.
- Three (or sometimes four) choices are:
 - Accept without revisions (very rare)
 - Accept with revisions (may distinguish between major and minor revisions)
 - Reject



Review and Publication Process

- Handling an “accept with revisions” decision
 - Carefully read the editor’s letter and reviewers’ comments to determine what changes are needed.
 - Put aside your ego, and take the reviews as constructive feedback to improve your work. Extensive reviewer feedback is guidance and encouragement for you to get published.
 - Don’t delay; make revisions as soon as possible and within whatever timeline the editor gives.



Review and Publication Process

- Handling an “accept with revisions” decision
 - Whenever possible, make changes to respond to the editor’s or reviewers’ comments.
 - If reviewers’ suggestions conflict, confer with the editor. In most cases, the editor’s letter outlines the key changes that are expected.
 - It is okay to disagree with a recommended change if you have a defensible rationale for not making that change.



Review and Publication Process

- Handling an “accept with revisions” decision
 - Keep a running account of all the changes that you make to the manuscript.
 - When you submit your revised manuscript to the editor, include a letter in which you detail all of the changes that you have made in response to the editor’s and reviewers’ comments and suggestions.



Review and Publication Process

- After you submit a revised manuscript, the editor may:
 - Accept your revisions and agree to publish the article.
 - Request additional changes before agreeing to publish the article.
 - Send the revised manuscript out for additional reviews (particularly if the decision was “accept with major revisions”).



Review and Publication Process

- Handling a “reject” decision
 - Do not get dejected if you get rejected. Analyze the reasons, and determine a course of action.
 - If “fit” with the journal was an issue, consider submitting to a more appropriate journal.
 - If the issue was the content/quality, use the reviewers’ comments to improve the manuscript and either resubmit it to the same journal or submit it to another journal.



Final Thoughts



Authorship

- Authorship and credit can be issues in works with multiple contributors such as works co-authored by a faculty member and graduate students.
- Whenever possible, contributors should discuss authorship and credit in advance to determine who should get credit as an author and what the order of authors should be.



Plagiarism

- Plagiarism can have serious consequences, and you can be cited for plagiarizing yourself (so-called self-plagiarism).
- To avoid problems, use Purdue's Check Yourself (iThenticate) system to scan your work before submitting it to a journal.



Rights and Fees

- When an article is published, you must transfer the copyright to the publisher. Use the [CIC Copyright Addendum](#) to retain some rights for yourself.
- Some journals have page charges. Watch out for these fees (often hundreds of \$\$\$), which are becoming more common in newer open-access, online journals.



Final Thoughts

- Think about where you want to publish your work. Aim for top-tier journals in your field. Avoid less selective publications.
- However, it is also valuable to spread your publications among a variety of different journals because they reach different audiences.
- Remember: write and write often!





Questions?



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