



Research4Life Publishing and Research Communications Short Course:
From idea to article: manuscript writing, journal selection, publishing in high impact journals

Webinar One: **Choosing the right journal for your work**

23rd May 2023

Research4Life is a public-private partnership of five programmes



Background



- Follow up of the [2022 Research4Life Publishing and Research Communications \(PRC\) webinar series](#)
- Improve PRC skills identified as the top concerns
- First course – explore key areas on writing and publishing of research articles: 19 May to 2 July 2023
- Second course – discuss funding research and research proposals: Autumn 2023

Research4Life Publishing and Research Communications Short Course:
"From idea to article: manuscript writing, journal selection, and publishing in high impact journals"

WEBINAR 1:

"Choosing the right journal for your work"

Tuesday, 23 May, 2023
9am EDT/3pm CET & CAT/8pm ICT
Duration: 90 minutes

WEBINAR 3:

"Perspectives on successful writing and publishing"

Tuesday, 20 June 2023
9am EDT/3pm CET & CAT/8pm ICT
Duration: 90 minutes

WEBINAR 2:

"Strategies for writing successful research articles"

Tuesday, 6 June 2023
9am EDT/3pm CET & CAT/8pm ICT
Duration: 90 minutes



Research4Life Publishing and Research Communications (PRC) Webinar Series

WEBINAR 6

Increasing the impact of your research

Wednesday 20th July
8am EDT/2pm CET & CAT/ 7pm ICT

WEBINAR 5

Getting Published: How to increase your chances of success

Wednesday, 6th July
8am EDT/2pm CET & CAT/ 7pm ICT

WEBINAR 4

Understanding publishing ethics

Wednesday, 29th June
8am EDT/2pm CET & CAT/ 7pm ICT



WEBINAR 1

Introduction to the webinar series. Highlighting the initial steps of research: search and access literature and formulating the research question

Wednesday, 11th May
9am EDT/3pm CET & CAT/ 8pm ICT

WEBINAR 2

Open Science, from Open Access to Open Research - what's it all About?

Wednesday, 18th May
9am EDT/3pm CET & CAT/ 8pm ICT

WEBINAR 3

Writing winning grant proposals: get your research successfully funded

Wednesday, 8th June
9am EDT/3pm CET & CAT/ 8pm ICT



This course is a part of Research4Life's effort to contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) established by the United Nations. The course is aligned with SDG 4; "Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all".

R4L Publishing and Research Communications Short Course working group



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Lenny Rhine, *Research4Life*

Kathy Kwan, *Research4Life, (coordinator)*

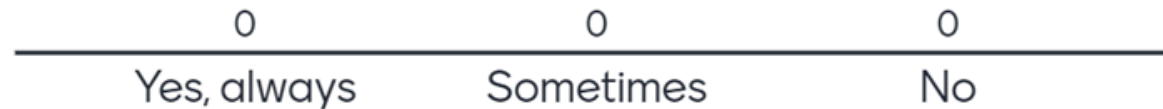
Identifying your audience

Prof. Dele Fawole, West Africa Representative, ITOCA
Mercy Moyo, Deputy Director (Research & Training), ITOCA

Go to www.menti.com and use the code [6313 5830](#)

 Mentimeter

Do you usually think about your audience before writing your manuscript?



Why do you need to identify your audience before writing?



- Helps you to make decisions about:
 - what information you should include,
 - how you should arrange that information, and
 - what kind of supporting details will be necessary for the reader to understand what you are presenting.
- Influences the tone and structure of your manuscript

Questions to ask yourself about your audience



- What audience am I trying to reach – General (Agriculturists) or Specialized (Nematologists)?
- What new information am I adding to the existing body of knowledge to excite my audience?
- Will each member of the target audience agree with what I have to say?
- If not (which will likely be the case!) what counter-arguments should I be prepared to answer – mostly with methodology, analysis and interpretation of results?

Institutional requirements

Dr. Gracian Chimwaza
Founder & Executive Director, ITOCA

Institutional requirements



- **Portfolio balance / work ratio:** Tend to be institutional dependent and also depends on researcher rank / level in the institution *[e.g. Departments may set the balance between teaching, research, and outreach work the academic staff is expected to deliver]*
- **Number of research articles published** - How many research articles does a depart require researchers to publish annually? *[Rather than annual publications, it may be a minimum number of publications to move from one rank to the other. As regards publishing in international journals vs local journals - publications are screened based on certain criteria e.g. editorial board membership, etc)]*
- **Guidelines on authorship:** Departments may prescribe how supervisors work with students when publishing the students work (order of authors). Institutions are mostly silent on this but from a morality point of view, the student should be the senior author for every manuscript published from the results of her thesis/dissertation. *[As researchers progress on the academic continuum, they are not expected to be first authors, but should do more of mentorship.]*

Institutional requirements (cont'ed)



- **Research ethics** - All research instruments must be reviewed and approved by a Research Ethics Committee before implementation for human and animal subjects. *[In addition there may be other guidelines to address other research ethics issues e.g. extractive research, etc]*
- **Publications policy** – researchers published works (research articles, books, book chapters, conference proceedings, etc.) may be published by the University in an open institutional repository (IR). *[e.g. Applicable at many institutions in Nigeria due to a drive by the need for improved webometric rankings.*
- **Policy / guidelines on embargoes on research data and findings due to confidentiality issues** - in cases where there may be patentable findings, information of commercial interest, etc. *[e.g. the Legal Units of the University gets involved where there are such data and there is an agreed sharing formula between the University and those involved in the research.]*



Selecting the right journal

Victoria Babbitt
Director of Researcher Development & Outreach
Taylor & Francis

Number one reason



Submitted to the wrong journal

Finding a journal



Clarivate
Web of Science™



Scopus

Publisher websites

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What are characteristics of high quality journals?

Web of Science

Basic publication information (e.g. journal title, journal publisher, ISSN, **contact details**)

Article titles and article abstracts in **English**

Presence of a **peer review policy**

Timeliness and/or publication volume

Scholarly **content quality** and relevance

Website functionality/journal format

Editorial board information including composition and affiliation details

Author information including author distribution and affiliation details

Finding a journal: Scopus

Convincing **editorial policy** and type of peer review

Diversity in geographical distribution of editors and authors

Academic **contribution** to the field

Quality of and conformity to the stated **aims and scope** of the journal

Readability of articles and clarity of abstracts

No delays or interruptions in the publication schedule

Full journal **content available online**

English language journal home page available

Finding a journal: publisher websites



Choose trusted, well known publishers

<https://www.stm-assoc.org/membership/our-members/>

<https://oaspa.org/>



Don't forget about your local resource: **librarians**

Assessing for quality

Publisher websites

- Published articles
- Editorial board
- Society affiliations
- Indexing
- IFAs
- Editorial policies

Web of Science

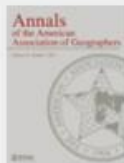
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Choosing a good fit

- Content
- Board
- Call for papers
- Aims & Scope statemen





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Aims and scope

The *Annals of the American Association of Geographers* is one of the world's leading geography journals and is the flagship journal of the American Association of Geographers, in publication since 1911. The *Annals* aims to publish original, timely, and innovative articles that advance geographic knowledge in all facets of the discipline. To be accepted, a paper must adhere to a high standard of scholarship and make an important contribution to geographic knowledge. It should also be grounded in the relevant literature of the specialization it represents and, where appropriate, establish relationships to themes within the broader discipline. Contents include regular manuscripts, special issues, forums, commentaries on published *Annals* articles, Presidential Addresses, and memorials.

Peer Review Policy: All Articles, Special Issues, Forums, and Commentaries submitted to this journal undergo a "double-anonymous" peer review by one to three referees, one of which will be the editor or designate. Commentary Responses undergo "single-anonymous" peer review.

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Aims and scope

Social & Cultural Geography publishes theoretically consequential empirical research that makes a strong intellectual contribution to critical human geography and its allied fields. The journal confronts topical issues relating to social/cultural problems and issues in geography and fosters scholarly debate about them. It strives for international authorship and readership, as well as in the peer-review process.

Social & Cultural Geography publishes research in a variety of formats, including original articles, provocations, forums and special issues. Information about each of these formats is available in the 'About the Journal' section of the website.

Special Issues

We welcome proposals for special issues, which should be consequential and innovative. We limit the number of special issues to 3 per volume. Guidelines for special issues can be found [here](#).

Peer Review Statement

All submitted manuscripts, including those which form part of special issue sets, are subject to initial appraisal by the Editors, and, if found suitable for further consideration, to double blind peer review by three independent, anonymous expert referees. Submission is online via [ScholarOne Manuscripts](#).

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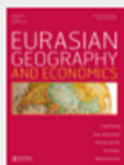
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Aims and scope

Eurasian Geography and Economics welcomes original papers on geographical and economic issues in the Eurasian region, broadly defined as encompassing China, Russia, India, South East Asia, the former Soviet Union and Europe.

We welcome theoretically informed papers which address any key current geopolitical and geo-economic developments in the region. Papers should clearly contextualise the topic in the relevant literature and the development of the region itself, and made clear what contribution to knowledge regarding the region and/or applicable theory they make. We also welcome papers which have an explicit comparative dimension, either within the region or between Eurasia and the rest of the world, or submissions that link regions across Eurasia, as well as sub-national scales of analysis. Papers which seek to integrate studies of Eurasia geography and economics into wider disciplinary debates, and which bring out what those debates can learn from studying the region, are particularly encouraged.

The journal does *not* publish papers which: fail to make clear what the key contribution of the paper is or do not make clear its relevance to the wider region and appropriate literature; are descriptive or report the results of a narrow case study- or present an in-depth account and/or evaluation of an economic model - without developing the wider implications for the region.

The journal will also consider review papers on significant issues in, or theoretical approaches to, the region (particularly in its global context), and proposals for guest edited theme issues on topics which generate insight into the development of the region or a significant part of it. In addition we will also welcome shorter papers for the *Eurasian Pulse* section of the journal which provide critical topical analyses of key current events in the region.

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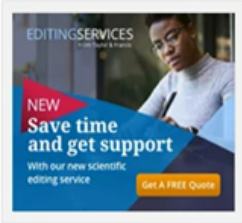
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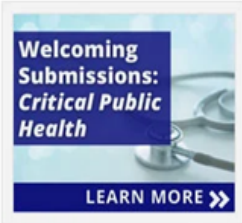
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About the journal

Global Health Action is an Open Access, international, peer reviewed journal, publishing high-quality, original



Avoiding publishing with predatory journals

Tools and Resources

Dr. Cenyu Shen
Quality Team Lead, DOAJ ambassador for China
Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)

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Overview



- Predatory publishing and characteristics
- How do researchers avoid predatory publishers?
- What to do if researchers have submitted to, or published in, a predatory journal?

Go to www.menti.com and use the code 6313 5830

 Mentimeter

How do you define a predatory publisher?



What is predatory publishing?



“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, A. et al. Nature 576, 210-212 (2019) doi:
<https://doi.org/10.1038/d41586-019-03759-y>*

Characteristics of predatory publishers



The deceptive practices of predatory publishers include, but are not limited to:

- They solicit the submissions through inappropriate marketing practices like aggressive spam emails
- Misleading information eg. a false claim of its content indexed in legitimate indexing services such as DOAJ or fake impact factors
- Fake editorial boards - listing respected researchers without their consents
- Journal or publisher title that may be similar to the legitimate ones
- Websites purporting to have Northern publisher locations
- Lack of transparency of their peer review process - what type of peer review they provide? How many reviewers? Who are the reviewers? etc.
- Lack of transparency about costs

How do researchers avoid predatory publishers?



- **Use of quality indexing services like DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals)**
 - A unique, extensive and diverse index of peer-reviewed open access journals
 - **Mission:** to raise profile, visibility and impact of all quality OA journals globally, regardless of discipline, geography or language
 - DOAJ criteria are a gold standard for open access journal publishing, trusted across the scholarly community



DOAJ Journal Assessment





- Journals must apply to be indexed in DOAJ
- Fully open access journals only
- Inclusion criteria are closely aligned with the [Principles of Transparency and Best Practice in Scholarly Publishing](#)
- Reviews by DOAJ editorial staff and our community of volunteer editors
- Full list of criteria at <https://doaj.org/apply/guide/>

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Search OA journals and articles from your subject fields



- If the journal charges publication fees?
- Who is the publisher?
- Which country is this journal from?
- Who is on the editorial board?
- What kind of peer review?
- How long does the submission to publication process take?

Logical Methods in Computer Science
LMCS

1860-5974 (ONLINE)

[Website](#) [ISSN Portal](#)

About Articles

PUBLISHING WITH THIS JOURNAL	BEST PRACTICE	JOURNAL METADATA
<p>There are NO PUBLICATION FEES (article processing charges or APCs) to publish with this journal.</p>	<p>This journal began publishing in open access in 2004.</p> <p>This journal uses a CC BY-ND license.</p> <p>→ Look up their open access statement and their license terms.</p>	<p>Publisher Logical Methods in Computer Science e.V., Germany</p> <p>Society or institution Logical Methods in Computer Science e.V.</p> <p>Manuscripts accepted in English</p>
<p>Look up the journal's:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aims & scope• Instructions for authors• Editorial Board• Blind peer review	<p>The author retains unrestricted copyrights and publishing rights.</p> <p>→ Learn more about their copyright policy.</p>	<p>LCC subjects Philosophy, Psychology, Religion, Logic Science, Mathematics, Instruments and machines, Electronic computers, Computer science</p> <p>Keywords theoretical computer science logical methods</p>
<p>Expect on average 33 weeks from submission to publication.</p>	<p>Permanent article identifier:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• DOI	

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FRONTIERS IN ROBOTICS AND AI (OCT 2022)

Classification of multiple sclerosis clinical profiles using machine learning and grey matter connectome

Berardino Barile, Berardino Barile, Pooya Ashtari, Claudio Stamile, Aldo Marzullo, Frederik Maes, Françoise Durand-Dubief, Francoise Durand-Dubief. Sabine Van Huffel.

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- **Tool to choose a trusted journal or publisher for your research**
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 - Think. Check. Submit offers two checklists: journals and books & chapters
 - Think. Check. Submit. helps researchers to build up their evaluation skills in the long term
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Is it the right journal or book for your work?

✓ Check

Use our check list to assess the journal or publisher.

➤ Submit

Only if you can answer 'yes' to the questions on our check list.

Think.Check.Submit. Journal Checklist



Are you submitting to a trusted journal?



Is it the right journal for your work?

Think.Check.Submit. Journal Checklist



- ☒ Do you or your colleagues know the journal?
- ☒ Can you easily identify and contact the publisher?
- ☒ Is the journal clear about the type of peer review it uses?
- ☒ Are articles indexed and/or archived in dedicated services?
- ☒ Is it clear what fees will be charged ?
- ☒ Are guidelines provided for authors on the publisher website?
- ☒ Is the publisher a member of a recognized industry initiative?

Think.Check.Submit. Journal Checklist



Only if you can answer YES to
all or most of these questions.

Only then should you submit
your article.

What to do if researchers have submitted to, or published in, a predatory journal?



If you have submitted to a predatory journal,

- don't pay publication fees
- don't sign any copyright agreements
- request the journal to withdraw your papers

If you have published in a predatory journal,

- request the journal to retract your papers and/or return all rights to you

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Always consult with your institutions, supervisors or senior colleagues if possible

Make sure you keep a copy of all correspondence with the journal



Thank you!

Email: cenyu@doaj.org

Research4Life is a public-private partnership of five programmes

