Prospective Author Orientation
Explorations, Volume 16
Publication Process
Publication Process

- **Synopsis submission**: FEB
- **Full manuscript submission**: MAR
- **Final manuscript submission**: APR-MAY
- **Review and Approvals**: MAY
- **Additional editing ***final proofing stage*****: MAY-JUL
- **Design**: AUG-OCT
- **Publication**: NOV
Important Dates

April 18 - May 1, 2024 - 1-on-1 meetings with editors

May 8, 2024 - Final manuscript and required paperwork deadline at noon

June 6, 2024 - June 20, 2024 - Authors review and return staff edits

July 18, 2024 - August 1, 2024 - Authors review and return professional edits at noon

November 15, 2024 - Journal Release
Next Step: Peer-to-Peer Editing

- April 18 - May 1
- Assigned 3-4 *Explorations* peer editors to work with
- Editors will contact you directly by Friday, April 19 to set up a meeting
- Meet at least twice, get feedback and answers to questions before submitting final manuscript
Editing Meetings: What to Expect

Initial meeting:

- Editors will have read through your work
- Offer broad feedback on structure, organization, jargon, etc.
- Answer any questions you may have about publication process, editorial suggestions, etc.
- Leave with action items and deadlines on parts of author and editors

Follow-up Meeting(s):

- Revisit action items from initial meeting
- Work through smaller technical matters, e.g., grammar, capitalization, punctuation, citation formatting
Additional Tips for Peer-to-Peer Editing

- Do what works for you and your editing team:
  - Zoom
  - Google Docs
  - MS Teams
  - MS Word
- Feel free to email back and forth with editors on questions / editing efforts
- You do not have to accept all editorial suggestions made by authors
- Peer-to-peer meetings will be your only designated face-to-face editing sessions - **take advantage!**
Staff Editing

- After final manuscript submission on May 8 - during summer semester
- Internal review of manuscript by LAUNCH staff
- Edits returned to you by June 6
- Editing work will be conducted through MS Word track changes and comments
- Files will be emailed between author and LAUNCH staff

What is required of you, the author?
- Address all edits by accepting or rejecting changes made by Friday, June 20
Professional Editing

- Final round of review - follows staff review
- Professional editor
- Edits returned to you by July 18
- Editing work will be conducted through MS Word track changes and comments
- Files will be emailed between author and LAUNCH staff

What is required of you, the author?
- Address all edits by accepting or rejecting changes made by August 1
Additional Notes for Staff and Professional Editing

- Must keep faculty advisor informed throughout process
  - Authors send the following to faculty advisors:
    - Copy of final manuscript
    - Copyright agreement
    - Faculty approval link (LAUNCH will also send a link just in case)
- Supplementary materials subject to further review and approval
  - Bios, portraits, figures, etc.
- Reminders will be sent periodically from LAUNCH staff
Submission Requirements
Final Manuscript Submission: Required Materials

Due: May 8, 2024 @ 11:59 am

- Final Manuscript Submission
  - Only Primary Contact submits
    - Make sure co-author information is added accurately
    - Use the template provided
  - Includes copyright agreement
  - Remember to send a copy of your Final Manuscript to your faculty advisor
  - The figures should be submitted separately
- Author Survey
  - Required for every undergraduate author
  - Includes appearance release and portrait submission
- Faculty Approval
Faculty Advisor Approval

Faculty advisors are asked to approve your work for publication, if accepted:

- Confirm the project to be published is current and appropriate for the field,
- Confirm the project was conducted ethically and with compliance approval, if necessary.
- Be a content expert who is able to sign off on student work

Outside of submitting an approval form, it will be important for your faculty advisor to help you refine your Manuscript.
General Publication Requirements

- Use the template provided
- Faculty Approval
- Research Compliance Verification
- Copyright Agreement
- Appearance Release
- Abstract, Teaser, Manuscript
- Supplementary Materials (Figures, Tables, Videos, Artifacts, etc.)
- Author Survey (Includes Biography and Portrait)
Article Reminders
Figures and References

- Include figures/captions in your submission, but you will also be asked to submit the files separately.
- Figures should be high quality and submitted in their original format.
- Cite figures that you did not create.
- References should be formatted according to the Chicago Manual of Style.
  - See Prospective Author Informational presentation for guidance and examples.
Tips for Effective Articles

- Professional, scholarly tone
- Use minimal technical jargon
- Active voice, passive voice
- Watch verb tenses in different sections
- Avoid ambiguous language (e.g., a lot, a little, this, very, considerable, good/bad)
- Avoid informal language (e.g., thing, really, deal with, just, even)
General Resources

- Chicago Manual of Style
- Purdue Owl
- Grammar Girl
- University Writing Center
- Editor Blogs/Podcasts about Editorial Decisions
- ACES (American Conference of Editors)
Helpful Links

- Final Manuscript Form: https://tamu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2os1wQFazPmNhRk
- Author Survey: https://tamu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3KPNKvi54gecOUe
- Faculty Approval: https://tamu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_dhxlpAFBs21uW0u
- Final Manuscript Template (Microsoft Word)
- Final Submission Checklist
- Heading Choices
- Supplemental Materials Checklist
- Example Formats
- Sample Copyright Agreement
- Chicago Manual of Style (You can login with your TAMU ID)
Questions?
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