

## **Aim and Scope**

The *Contemporary Southern Psychology* E-journal's aim is to advance the discipline of psychology by providing a digital platform for the dissemination of quality research. Although the name of the journal has the word "southern", this does not mean the journal will only accept research from individuals in the southern region. The focus of the journal is to foster mutual collaboration among academicians, researchers and mental health professionals. The journal also seeks to be an open access, peer-reviewed venue to facilitate active research between faculty and students. The journal welcomes cognitive, social, developmental, educational, industrial, organizational, clinical, forensic and health psychology, as well as other psychology related topics. It accepts submissions, including empirical research articles, book, article and chapter reviews, meta-analyses, replication and commentary, from anyone within the global population.

### Editorial policies

One editor reads each manuscript, as it arrives. If the editor thinks the manuscript meets the qualifications of the aim and scope of the journal, the manuscript is sent to two or more referees for double-blind peer review. Based upon the referees' recommendations, the editor usually writes the decision letter indicating "Accept", "Reject," or "Revise and Re-submit". Usually within two weeks of receipt of manuscript, others are notified by the editor that their manuscript (A) has been declined during the initial editorial review or (B) sent to review experts for further evaluation. For those manuscripts receiving peer review, authors may expect a decision within 60 days of submission. The editor makes the final decision regarding the acceptance of a manuscript. The acceptance criteria for manuscripts are based on the quality and originality of the research and its significance to the field of psychology.

## **GUIDE FOR AUTHORS**

### **Types of Articles Accepted in the Online Journal of *Contemporary Southern Psychology*:**

1. **Clinical/case study**- an article that has a clinical focus can be considered if there is a unique, creative, or cutting-edge psychological component to the management of the case.
2. **Psychological promotion**- an article highlighting an aspect of the promotion of psychology with a focus on development, implementation, and/or evaluation of the psychological activity.
3. **Quality improvement**- an article highlighting a quality improvement effort, which was implemented to improve the psychological/mental health in a population of people.
4. **Original research**- an article focusing on qualitative or quantitative original research, in an area which clearly promotes psychology or improvement in quality of life for patients. The manuscript should highlight the applicability of the research to current mental health practice.
5. **Integrative research review**- a manuscript which summarizes a body of research on a topic, related to psychological or quality of mental health issues.
6. **Systematic research review**- a manuscript which presents a systematic review of literature on a given topic of interest to psychological/mental health promotion. Must include a

summary of their search strategies, inclusion/exclusion criteria, and an evaluation of the reported research. Tables should be included to summarize research study findings.

7. **Replication research** - a study whose primary purpose is to confirm the validity of a previously published study in a peer-reviewed psychology journal, or of research from other sources (e.g., books, journals, etc.). *CSP* is committed to publishing both confirming and disconfirming replications.

### **Who can submit to the Online Journal of Interprofessional Health Promotion**

Anyone may submit an original article to be considered for publication as long as it is original work from the author and meets focus of journal. Submitted articles cannot have been previously published or under review at another journal.

### **Submission Checklist:**

\_\_\_\_\_ One author has been designated as the corresponding author with contact details including email address and full postal address.

\_\_\_\_\_ Manuscript is complete including:

- Cover letter
- Following APA Publication Manual (6<sup>th</sup> edition)
- Must be submitted in Microsoft Word document
- Abstract less than 250 words
- The abstract should include information about the sample size(s) in the manuscript. Please report test statistics with two decimal points (e.g.,  $t(21) = 3.78$ ) and probability values with three decimal points. In addition, exact  $p$  values should be reported for all results greater than “.001”.
- Keywords (usually 3-6)
- All figures and tables (including titles, descriptions, references)
- Manuscript has been spell checked and grammar checked
- All references are cited in the text and the reference list
- Permission has been obtained to use any copyrighted material from other sources
- All contributing authors are identified on the title page
  - Using APA (6<sup>th</sup> edition) guidelines
  - Include funding sources (if applicable)

### **Formatting Requirements**

1. All content in the *CSP* is printed only in English.
2. There are no word limitations, due to the online nature of the journal. Authors are cautioned to submit articles that are adequate in length to cover the topic; yet brief enough to hold the interest of future readers. (Rule of thumb – approximately 2500 to 5000 words for Empirical Research article/, literature/systematic reviews around 10,000 words/750 words for chapter/book review)

3. Authors should follow the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (6<sup>th</sup> ed.).
4. Manuscript components:
  - a. Cover letter
    - i. Include title of the manuscript
    - ii. A statement of authorship
    - iii. Contact information for the author
    - iv. Attestation that this article has not been submitted to other journals
  - b. Title page
    - i. Title- please limit title to 25 words or less
    - ii. Provide a descriptive title that will entice readers
    - iii. List of all authors, include institutional affiliations and credentials
    - iv. Any disclaimers required by Federal Law
  - c. Abstract- the first item in the main document. Word limit for abstract is 250 words or less.
  - d. Keywords- provide a list of keywords that will enable readers to discover your work. Usually at least four words should be included.
  - e. Main Document
    - i. No identifying information on any pages of the main document
    - ii. Use a header that has a shortened version of the title
    - iii. Use headings and subheadings per APA style.
      1. Headings should be distinguished from the main body text by their fonts or by using small caps. There should be a space above and below headings.
    - iv. All figures and tables must be called out in the text per APA style.
    - v. Type document in Microsoft Word, using Times New Roman, 12 point font with 1 inch margins.
  - f. Acknowledgments (if any)
    - i. Keep these brief
  - g. References
    - i. List alphabetically in a separate section of the document.
    - ii. Double space under a heading titled References.
    - iii. Pay attention to APA requirements for citation of hardcopy and online references
    - iv. All references cited in the Reference list should be utilized within the body of the document; otherwise, they should be deleted.
    - v. As a general rule, references should be no more than 5 years old.
  - h. Tables
    - i. Tables should supplement material in the text
    - ii. Tables should have reference citations as needed.
    - iii. Tables should be placed in a separate file, include in the body of the document a notation at the appropriate spot where the table should be included: "Table 4.1 goes here"
    - iv. Tables should be created in Microsoft Word programming.

- i. Figures- if you utilize figures, they need to be original and called out in the text of the manuscript. Citations for references must follow APA guidelines.

### **Information for Authors**

1. Write as if you are talking to the reader. Use active verbs. Avoid heavy academic vocabulary.
2. Be specific, give examples to important points.
3. Do not try to cover too much content, keep your topic narrowly focused.
4. Avoid jargon.
5. Spell out any acronyms or abbreviations on their first use.
6. Permissions- any work from a pre-existing copyright must have a written permission to use in this manuscript. Photographs require proof of permission from all identifiable subjects in the photograph.
7. All authors should have made a substantial contribution to the following components of the manuscript:
  - a. The conception and design of the study
  - b. Writing and revising the actual content of the manuscript
  - c. Final approval of the version to be submitted

### **Manuscript Style, Structure and Content**

The style of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th edition*, must be followed with respect to handling of references, abbreviations and symbols. Please embed figures and tables within the main text.

Authors are encouraged to consult the “APA Guide for New Authors” for more information on the manuscript submission and process. You may upload your manuscript and other files as a Microsoft Word .doc or .docx. ***APA Guide for New Authors*** - <https://www.apa.org/pubs/authors/new-author-guide.pdf>