

Culture & Psychology

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Culture & Psychology publishes original articles of theoretical relevance for linking the notions of culture and psychology. It is the flagship journal on cultural psychology – a theoretically grounded, qualitatively rich field that examines the meaning-making processes of individuals. Since the nature of psychological phenomena is qualitative in nature, empirical evidence that is included in theoretically relevant manuscripts is expected to be provided through qualitative methods. The journal has not published a standard quantitative manuscript in its existence, and instead heavily encourages the submission of qualitative, theoretical, and case-study based work.

Manuscript types and length

While there is no length requirement for a manuscript submitted to *Culture & Psychology*, authors are advised to keep their articles under 12,000 words, including all elements (title page, abstract, notes, references, tables, biographical statement, etc).. Manuscripts should be expected to change in length through the peer-review process, and additional analysis or text may want to consider supplemental material.

To guide authors and ensure alignment with the journal's mission, *Culture & Psychology* has established five distinct submission scopes. These categories reflect the diverse ways cultural psychological inquiry can be expressed: theoretical development, methodological innovation, empirical case work, and synthesis. Rather than constraining creativity, these scopes are designed to clarify expectations, streamline the peer review process, and promote deeper engagement with the journal's core commitment: understanding culture as a semiotic, systemic process that shapes psychological life. Authors are encouraged to select the scope that best reflects their manuscript's primary contribution.

1. Meta-Theoretical Inquiries

Meta-theoretical inquiries are articles that develop, critique, or propose foundational frameworks to integrate culture into psychological understanding. These submissions explore big-picture questions, drawing from philosophy and theory to reimagine how culture shapes mind, behavior, and meaning. Suitable formats include conceptual essays, philosophical analyses, or empirically grounded theoretical applications.

2. Methodological Innovations

Submissions marked as methodological innovations introduce, refine, or critically evaluate research methods appropriate for cultural psychological inquiry. These pieces move beyond critiques of quantitative methods to offer alternatives—such as dialogical, idiographic, or reflexive approaches—that better capture the complexity of cultural meaning-making. Detailed methodological transparency is strongly encouraged.

3. Theoretical Advancements

Theoretical Advancement manuscripts expand or refine psychological theory within and across cultural contexts. These can be empirical studies, interdisciplinary reviews, or conceptual contributions that advance our understanding of psychological processes—such as identity, creativity, or aesthetics—through a culturally grounded lens.

4. Case Studies

Case studies are understood as qualitative, idiographic investigations of real-world cultural phenomena that generate or refine theory. These articles emphasize depth over breadth, showcasing the dynamic interplay between theory and lived experience. They highlight how cultural symbols, practices, and meaning systems operate in context.

5. Syntheses

Short-form articles (max 2,500 words) that integrate and critically analyze 6–8 previously published articles from *Culture & Psychology* around a shared theme. Syntheses clarify theoretical trends, identify gaps, and propose new directions for research. First author must be Master's-level student or below. Syntheses proposals should be emailed to the Editor in Chief before submission.

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