Journal of Literacy Research

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First-time users will need to create an account by selecting a username and password. Be sure to enter your email address and select areas of expertise. After creating an account, log in to the Author Center to submit your manuscript.

Please note that editors do not review manuscripts outside of the desk review process.

Editorial Policy on Manuscript Review

Submitted manuscripts are first reviewed by the editors for research integrity, topic suitability, and reporting format. Submitted manuscripts may be returned without further review if judged not appropriate for publication in JLR.

Manuscripts meeting initial screening criteria are sent to members of the editorial board or other qualified literacy researchers for anonymized, peer-review. Following peer-review, all manuscripts are read by the full team of editors prior to a final decision about publication. The principal criteria used in judging manuscripts are the: (a) significance of their contribution to the field of literacy, (b) soundness of the methods employed in the research, (c) rigor of the scholarly argument(s), and (d) clarity of the writing.

The editors strongly encourage potential authors to consult the following two documents as applicable in the shaping of their intellectual arguments: “Standards for Reporting Empirical Social Science Research” (AERA, 2006) and “Standards for Reporting Humanities Oriented Research” (AERA, 2009) which can be found at https://www.aera.net/Publications/Standards-for-Research-Conduct

Potential contributors who have specific questions about editorial policy, manuscript preparation, or the review process are encouraged to contact Dr. Christina L. Dobbs, Editor, Journal of Literacy Research, Wheelock College of Education and Human Development, Boston University. Email: cdobbs@bu.edu

Manuscript Preparation

Authors are encouraged to align their work with the goals of the journal and are encouraged to examine previous issues of JLR for style presentation. Submissions to the journal contribute to an ongoing conversation related to the aims and scope of JLR. As such, authors are encouraged to make connections, as appropriate, to previous work published in JLR.

Additionally, for style presentation, authors should use the guidance of the 7the edition of the American Psychological Association (APA). We encourage authors to avoid dehumanizing language such as “struggling reader,” “failing schools,” “dyslexics,” “special education students,” and “high poverty schools.” We also encourage authors to avoid bias in their language related to gender and the representation of gender in their work.

All manuscripts submitted to the JLR must be original works of the author(s), which have not been published previously in any form or submitted simultaneously to other journals.

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Authors should familiarize themselves with Sage’s Accessibility Guidelines to ensure their manuscripts meet recognized accessibility standards.

Manuscript Submission

All documents submitted for review must be fully masked (anonymized) according to APA 7. This requires removing all identifying information (authors’ names, affiliated institutions, and the year of publication by the author) from all manuscripts, tables/figures, author’s response letters, cover letters, and appendices during the peer review process.

Empirical Articles

Manuscripts must be anonymized and double-spaced using Times New Roman 12 point font. A maximum length of 10,500 words (inclusive of references) for traditional submissions is allowed. For traditional submissions, the manuscript should be reduced by 450 words for

every table/figure. Tables and figures must be directly germane to the main argument of the paper, and authors should aim to submit no more than 6 tables and figures.

The editors ask authors to submit appendices, figures, tables, and other supplementary materials either as embedded in the manuscript approximately where they should appear or as separate files within the system; materials being submitted separately such as appendices, tables, or figures should be submitted in their corresponding categories and would ultimately be presented as part of the article in the issue. Each of these materials must be submitted as an individual file if submitting them separately. The supplementary materials designation is for material that authors and editors deem appropriate to publish in the online repository of material but not as an integral part of the manuscript, and authors may upload these files under the supplementary materials designation. Upon acceptance and publication, these supplemental materials may be retrieved by interested readers from an online archive supported by Sage with the URL link printed in the final article and will not be included entirely in the article itself. These supplementary materials must conform to APA guidelines. Editors should be consulted in the event that authors wish to submit additional types of materials to the repository. All submissions also require a title page as a separate file.

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Manuscripts must be anonymized and double-spaced with a maximum length of 3,000 words (inclusive of references). Insight essays may be invited or submitted. Insight essays draw from multi- or interdisciplinary perspectives to challenge, expand and/or evolve notions of literacy. Submissions that engage with disciplines and theoretical perspectives traditionally outside of the scope of literacy and language education are particularly welcomed.

All Submissions

All submissions (empirical and Insight Essays) must conform to the guidelines of American Psychological Association's Manual of Style (7th ed).

Additionally, please adhere to the following guidelines:

• submission of 8 ½" x 11" manuscript with 1" margins in Microsoft Word format;

• 12pt Times New Roman font and double-spaced;

• running header (the title of the manuscript in all capital letters) flush left and page numbers flush right;

• t line of all paragraphs indented;

• block quotations (40 words or more) should be indented 1/2 inch;

• headings and reference list in APA format and fact-checked; and

• references to the author(s) must be deleted and replaced with “Authors (Year A)” etc., and author(s) own citations in the reference list should be alphabetically ordered as “Author. (Year).” for anonymizing purposes.

Submissions should include:

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b) separate title page including name, affiliation, address, phone number, email address of the author and all coauthors;

c) one-paragraph abstract limited to 150 words should accompany all submissions. The abstract should be written without citations;

d) up to 5 keywords (the terms that researchers will use to find your article in indexes and databases) at the bottom of the abstract (limited to five key words and/or 85 characters with spaces); and

e) titles will be limited to 66 characters (with spaces).

Tables and Figures. Placement and titles for tables and figures in the text should follow APA 7th edition formatting. Tables and figures should be uploaded as a separate document from the main document as individual files.

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