

How to Publish an Article in Six Classes - Course Syllabus

Course Overview

This course provides a structured pathway for writing and publishing an academic article, guiding students through each essential stage of the process, from conceptualization to submission. Each class will cover critical components of academic writing, with hands-on activities and assignments aimed at building a publishable manuscript by the end of the course.

Class 1: Formulating a Research Question, Introduction, and Objective

Objectives: Understand the importance of a well-defined research question, and learn how to create a focused introduction and

Topics Covered:

- Choosing a research topic and identifying gaps in existing literature.
- Defining a clear, specific research question.
- Writing an introduction that captures interest and establishes context.
- Setting objectives that align with the research question.

Assignments: Develop a draft of the research question, introduction, and objectives for feedback.

Class 2: Literature Review

Objectives: Learn to conduct a comprehensive literature review and synthesize key findings relevant to your research question.

Topics Covered:

- Searching and selecting relevant literature.
- Structuring the literature review.
- Writing a critical analysis, identifying trends, gaps, and theoretical foundations.

Assignments: Complete a draft of the literature review section.

Class 3: Quantitative and Qualitative Methodology

Objectives: Understand both quantitative and qualitative research methodologies and select an appropriate methodology for your

Topics Covered:

- Overview of research designs (e.g., surveys, experiments, case studies).
- Selecting and justifying methodology choices.
- Writing a methodology section that details sample, data collection, and analysis methods.

Assignments: Write the methodology section, including a justification for chosen methods.

Class 4: Software Training and Results Interpretation

Objectives: Gain hands-on experience with data analysis software and learn how to interpret results.

Topics Covered:

- Introduction to data analysis software (e.g., SPSS, NVivo).
- Running basic statistical or qualitative analyses.
- Interpreting findings and presenting results effectively.

Assignments: Perform an analysis with provided or sample data and prepare the results section.

Class 5: Conclusion and Contribution

Objectives: Write a compelling conclusion that highlights your study's contributions to the field.

Topics Covered:

- Summarizing findings and their implications.
- Addressing study limitations and suggesting areas for future research.
- Writing a conclusion that emphasizes the study's contributions to theory or practice.

Assignments: Draft the conclusion and contribution sections.

Class 6: Submission to a Journal

Objectives: Prepare a polished manuscript and navigate the submission process to an academic journal.

Topics Covered:

- Selecting an appropriate journal for submission.
- Formatting the manuscript according to journal guidelines.
- Writing a cover letter and responding to reviewer feedback.

Assignments: Submit the final manuscript draft and draft a cover letter.