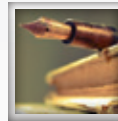


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Choose your journal

One of the most common mistakes authors make is to submit to a journal that is not relevant to their paper. Do some research when your article is finished, visit the journals' web pages, read their aims and scopes and make sure that you are placing your article in the most relevant journal. This way it is more likely to be accepted and read by fellow researchers in the area.

Write something new

Journal editors are looking for papers that have something relevant to contribute to the conversation, so make sure your paper is saying something new and saying it clearly.

Present your paper

Participating in disciplinary conventions can be a great way to get feedback on your paper so that you can make improvements before submitting. Also, journal editors are often present, so arrange to meet with them.

Take criticism on board

It can be difficult to receive criticism from your peers but if you can use this critique to revise your paper and make improvements, you stand a much better chance of being accepted by the journal. If not, it could help you to submit it somewhere else.

If in doubt – ask

Most journal editors are happy to receive inquiries from potential authors and give advice about article submission. Perhaps send them your abstract for initial feedback before submitting.

Check you have everything

If you have figures, check they are all referred to in the text of your paper. Very importantly, make sure that you have the correct copyright clearance for any material in your paper that is already copyright to a third party, e.g. images.

One last check

Finally, ask colleagues to read your paper prior to submission, and check how the editor requires you to submit it.

And finally – good luck!

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