Spectra Undergraduate Research Journal

Manuscript Template

Please see the following template for all manuscripts submitted to Spectra Undergraduate Research Journal including:
1) Primary research articles
2) Primary review articles
3) Research protocol articles, and
4) Thesis-based research articles can use this template to help prepare their manuscript.
Full Title Page

The title of the article

Full author names and credentials (e.g. First M. Last, BSc Student¹*, First M. Last, PhD²)

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Abstract: Not to exceed 250 words

Introduction: Concisely describe the context and purpose of your research

Methods: Concisely describe how the research was conducted and quantitative or qualitative methods and techniques used without details

Results: Summarize your most important and main findings

Discussion: Concisely describe the study implications and future directions

Keywords

keyword1; keyword2; keyword3; keyword4; keyword5; keyword6
Introduction

Research objective(s): Describe the main objective(s) of your research

Conceptual/theoretical framework(s): Embed your research within relevant and pertinent theoretical or explanatory framework(s) and note any relevant controversies or disagreements in the field

Literature review and background: Include a brief review of the key literature and provide background that puts the manuscript into context and allows readers outside the field to understand the purpose and significance of the study

Significance and contribution(s): Define the problem addressed and why it is important

Research question(s): Present your specific research questions

Methods

Design and protocol: Provide enough detail to allow suitably skilled investigators to fully assess and replicate your study

Materials and sampling: Provide details about your materials, sample size, and sampling strategy

Types of analysis: Provide details about your analytical framework and techniques

Results

Present your results and describe your key findings

Discussion

Interpret your results

Conclusions

Main conclusions: Describe the conclusions that can be drawn and/or can be generalizable

Importance to the field: Explain how the results relate and contribute to your field

Broader implication and future directions
Provide a succinct explanation of the implications of the findings, particularly in relation to previous related studies and potential future directions for research.

List of abbreviations used
If abbreviations are used in the text they should be defined in the text at first use written in full with the abbreviation in parentheses. A complete list of all abbreviations used should be provided in a section called List of Abbreviations directly following the Conclusions section.

Conflicts of Interest
Declare any real, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest between the duties or responsibilities related to research, and personal, institutional or other interests associated with each author. Conflicts of interest can exist when an author’s interpretation of data or presentation of information may be influenced by their personal or financial relationship with other people or organizations. If all authors have no conflicts of interest, please state “The author(s) declare that they have no conflict of interests.”

Ethics Approval
If the study reported in your manuscript requires review by your institution's review board (IRB), please provide the details in this section. If your study involved human participants, please describe the steps taken to gain the consent of the study participants.

Authors’ Contributions
According to the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE), authorship credit should be based only on substantial contributions to:

1. Conception and design, analysis and interpretation of data
2. Drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content
3. Final approval of the version to be published.

Please outline the contributions made by each author marked by their initials:

Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR)
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ABC: contributed to the research design, collected and analyzed data, drafted the manuscript, and approved the version to be published.

DEF: contributed to the research design and planning, assisted with data collection and analysis, approved the version to be published.

GHI: substantially contributed to the research design, data collection, analysis, and interpretation, revised the manuscript critically, and approved the version to be published.

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Please include all funding sources associated with your study. If the study was unfunded, please state “This study was not funded”.

References
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