Ethics of Authorship &
Deciding Where to Publish

Office of Graduate Professional Development Workshop
Suzanne Stapleton
Marston Science Library
Objectives

Ethical Authorship
1. Understand what merits authorship
2. Describe an author’s responsibilities

Academic Publishing
3. Become familiar with resources to help identify appropriate publications for your scholarship
   Sidebar: Citation metrics
   Sidebar: Overview of open access publishing
4. Evaluate the quality of a publishing outlet using six criteria
5. Recognize warning signs of potentially fraudulent publishers
“...knowledge is acquired cumulatively and collaboratively—and the principal mode for sharing this knowledge is the institution of scholarly publishing.”
Why is authorship important in academia?
Why is authorship important in academia?

• A means to share your knowledge & contribute to the advancement of a field
• Allows others to credit the sources of new information or opinion
• Primary means to demonstrate expertise & research impact
• Professional development & career advancement; used in promotion(s) and awards/honors

• “A different way of teaching”

Image: University of Florida
28 Guidelines at a Glance on Avoiding Plagiarism

The following guidelines are taken from "Avoiding plagiarism, self-plagiarism, and other questionable writing practices: A guide to ethical writing" by Miguel Roig. Guideline 1: An ethical writer ALWAYS acknowledges the contributions of others to his/her work.

Guideline 1: An ethical writer ALWAYS acknowledges the contributions of others to his/her work.

Guideline 2: Any verbatim text taken from another source must be enclosed in quotation marks and be accompanied by a citation to indicate its origin.

Guideline 3: When we summarize others’ work, we use our own words to condense and convey others’ contributions in a shorter version of the original.

Guideline 4: When paraphrasing others’ work, not only must we use our own words, but we must also use our own syntactical structure.
Authorship

Does Author = Writer?
What Research Contributions Merit Authorship?

Which of the people below should be listed as authors?

- Writer(s)
- Person who had idea for work
- Funder or person who secured funds for research
- Data collector
- Data analyzer
- Correspondent with publisher
- Revisions writer
- Editor
- Lab manager
- Facility host
Who is an Author?

ICMJE recommends authorship be based on 4 criteria:

• Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work; or the acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data for the work; AND

• Drafting the work or revising it critically for important intellectual content; AND

• Final approval of the version to be published; AND

• Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contributions</th>
<th>Authorship? ( <img src="yes-no.png" alt="yes;" /> no)</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Design &amp; Interpretation of results</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>original idea, planning &amp; input</td>
<td><img src="yes-no.png" alt="yes;" /></td>
<td>An idea alone may not warrant authorship, unless highly original &amp; unique</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>other intellectual contribution</td>
<td><img src="yes-no.png" alt="yes;" /></td>
<td>Yes, but assuming active involvement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supervisory role</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>supervision of the project</td>
<td><img src="yes-no.png" alt="yes;" /></td>
<td>Yes, but assuming active involvement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>training, education</td>
<td><img src="yes-no.png" alt="yes;" /></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mentoring of 1st author</td>
<td><img src="yes-no.png" alt="no" /></td>
<td>No, unless substantive contribution made to study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Administrative &amp; technical support</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>resources: $</td>
<td><img src="yes-no.png" alt="yes;" /></td>
<td>Acknowledgements yes, authorship no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>resources: animals, reagents</td>
<td><img src="yes-no.png" alt="no" /></td>
<td>No if already published; yes if novel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>resources: patients</td>
<td><img src="yes-no.png" alt="no" /></td>
<td>Maybe, depending on circumstances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Data acquisition</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>original experimental work</td>
<td><img src="yes-no.png" alt="yes;" /></td>
<td>No if routine; yes if novel methods added, or specific role, e.g., statistics, imaging etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>technical experimental work</td>
<td><img src="yes-no.png" alt="no" /></td>
<td>Yes, unless only very basic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>data analysis (assays)</td>
<td><img src="yes-no.png" alt="no" /></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>data analysis (statistics)</td>
<td><img src="yes-no.png" alt="yes;" /></td>
<td>Yes, unless only very basic (t-tests e.g.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Writing &amp; other</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>drafting of manuscript</td>
<td><img src="yes-no.png" alt="yes;" /></td>
<td>Warrants first authorship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>reading/ commenting on manuscript</td>
<td><img src="yes-no.png" alt="yes;" /></td>
<td>Substantial feedback can be acknowledged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>none</td>
<td><img src="yes-no.png" alt="yes;" /></td>
<td>Includes honorary authorship for lab chiefs, celebrities etc.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Publishers May Require an Author Contribution Statement

Structural resilience and high interaction dissimilarity of plant–pollinator interaction networks in fire-prone grasslands


*Oecologia* 198, 179–192 (2022) | [Cite this article](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00442-021-05071-x)

**Author contribution statement** CSG, LRP, MMJ, and CVCS conceived ideas and sampling design; CSG and CVCS collected the data; CSG, LRP, PMAF and JVB analyzed the data; CSG led the writing of the first draft; CSG, LRP, MMJ, JVB, and PMAF contributed critically with writing and reviewing the manuscript. All authors have participated and contributed significantly to the development of this work. They have also revised the work critically and approved the final version of the manuscript.

How can we ensure visibility and diversity in research contributions? How the Contributor Role Taxonomy (CRediT) is helping the shift from authorship to contributorship

Liz Allen, Alison O'Connell, and Veronique Kiermer

14 Contributor Roles:

- Conceptualization
- Methodology
- Software
- Validation
- Formal analysis
- Investigation
- Resources
- Data curation
- Writing – original
- Writing – review/editing
- Visualization
- Supervision
- Project administration
- Funding acquisition

Doi.org/10.1002/leap.1210
Minimum Requirements for Authorship by Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE)

1. Substantial intellectual contribution to the work
2. Accountable for the work and its published form

https://publicationethics.org/resources/discussion-documents/authorship
“If you want to take credit, first learn to take responsibility”

Tim Cook, Apple CEO
Commencement Address, Stanford University, 2019

Authorship Responsibilities

• Confirm that the publication is accurate
• Understand and be able to explain the research
• Legally responsible for content (including adherence to copyright law & license agreements)
• Available for future communication about the publication
• funding sources
• advising about the statistical analysis
• collecting or entering the data
• modifying or structuring a computer program
• conducting routine observations or diagnoses for use in studies
• reviewing manuscript drafts

https://www.flickr.com/photos/nihgov/30861587086

Acknowledgement in Lieu of Authorship
Best practices for ethical authorship

- Establish clear expectations for authorship at the beginning of a project
- Give credit where credit is due
  - Obtain permission to re-use any published images or figures
  - Properly cite previously published work
- Disclose funding sources or any conflict of interests
- Contributions can be dynamic, so re-visit authorship during the project
- ALL eligible authors agree to final manuscript version prior to submission
Publishing Options Abound


Image: #jp-carouselel-387 in Ethics Alarms.com
Journal or Publisher Selection
Personal Hierarchy of Preference

Where are Your Mentors Publishing?

C.V. or Lists of Research Publications

https://ufdc.ufl.edu/IR00008243/00013/citation
Tools to Search by Author for their Publications

https://research.ufl.edu/orcid.html

Sample search for Author in Web of Science

Online CV/Resumes, Websites, Search Engines & Databases
Find Journals by Topic:
Library Catalog & Tools

UF Library Catalog – filter for Journals with query words in Subject

Ulrich’s Global Serials Directory*

Find Journals by Topic: Databases

Scopus’ Sources by Subject Area

Scimago (https://www.scimagojr.com)

Find Journals with Publisher AI Tools

Example: Springer's Journal Suggester

Example: EndNote Manuscript Matcher
Evaluating Publishing Venues

Criteria

1. Appropriate scope
2. Quality content
3. Publisher
4. Scholarly impact
5. Author’s rights
6. Professional ethics
Appropriate Scope

➢ What is the mission of the publication? Does your research fit within the aims & scope of this venue?

➢ Are your findings new or novel? Will they stimulate and contribute to conversations on topics covered by the publication?

➢ See the description about the journal or book series.

➢ Read recently published articles.
Appropriate Scope

Book proposal

Journal submission
Who ensures the quality of the content published?

Editorial Board

➢ The editorial board establishes and maintains the quality of content published.

➢ Who is on the editorial board? Does their expertise complement the scope of the publication?

➢ Are diverse perspectives represented?

https://www.donotedit.com/editorial-board/
Journal of Urban Planning and Development

Aims & Scope
The Journal of Urban Planning and Development covers the application of civil engineering to such aspects of urban planning as area-wide transportation, the coordination of planning and programming of public works and utilities, and the development and redevelopment of urban areas. Subjects include environmental assessment, aesthetic considerations, land use planning, underground utilities, infrastructure management, renewal legislation, transportation planning, and evaluation of the economic value of state parks.

Editorial Board
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Danlin Yu, Ph.D., Montclair State University
Who ensures the quality of the content published?

Peer Review

Once an article is submitted for review, it will be evaluated by ASCE journal staff to ensure it meets our technical requirements for submission. Once the manuscript passes our technical check, the manuscript will be sent to the chief editor of the journal to begin the review process.

Most of our journals follow a review procedure wherein the chief editor will perform an initial review of the article to make sure it fits the aims and scope of the journal. Authors can review each journal's aims and scope on the journal home page at ascelibrary.org.

If a manuscript fits within the journal's scope and the English is reasonable, the chief editor may send the article to an associate editor who will invite reviewers and make a decision on the manuscript. Once the associate editor submits their recommendation and the reviews, the chief editor will review the recommendation and make a final decision.
In addition to Editorial Board composition and Peer Review, what other factors indicate that a publication is credible to you?

Can you suggest other indicators of quality content?
Are these indicators of quality content?

- I know the editor
- Content by reputable authors
- High citation counts
- It looks good (Professional design & layout)
- Large readership or number of subscriptions
- Authorship ethics policy
- Favorite publication of my colleagues
- Violations not mentioned in COPE or Retraction Watch
Publisher

- Who owns the publication?
- What are the revenue sources to produce the publication?
- What services does the publisher provide?
Publisher Examples

Society publisher

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

University Press publisher

Established in 1962, the MIT Press is one of the largest and most distinguished university presses in the world and a leading publisher of books and journals at the intersection of science, technology, art, social science, and design.

Commercial publisher

Journalism

Theory, practice and criticism
Publisher Information Resources

Access via Databases A-Z
(https://guides.uflib.ufl.edu/az.php)

https://portal.issn.org/
Scholarly Impact

➢ Readership: Who reads this publication? Is this your target audience? Who can read current and archived issues? Is the publication Open Access?

➢ Indexing: Do reputable subject databases include content from this publication?

➢ Citation metrics
What is Open Access Publishing?

Memberships & Discounts
The Libraries partner with a range of publishers to pass on savings for open access publishing costs to our authors. In most cases, this comes in the form of a percentage discount on the article processing charge (APC), in other cases, all publications from UF authors may be published at no cost thanks to the Libraries’ investments.

American Chemical Society - because the libraries pay for the full subscription journal package from the American Chemical Society, UF authors receive a 25% discount on Article Processing Charges (APC) to make individual articles Open Access.
arXiv - the libraries support this popular preprint archive by paying an annual fee. UF consistently ranks in the top 100 universities using arXiv.
BioMed Central - the libraries pay a membership fee to BioMed Central (BMC) and UF authors receive a 15% discount on Article Processing Charges (APC) for all BMC and Springer Open journals.
Cambridge University Press - the Libraries support this initiative by incorporating article processing charges into annual subscription fees. Through this initiative, corresponding authors at UF submit and publish open access articles with no out-of-pocket costs.
Elsevier Science Direct - The Libraries have entered into a pilot agreement with Elsevier through December 2021 which extends a discount on article processing charges (APCs). Articles eligible for the APC discount must have been submitted after July 1, 2021. The corresponding author must be affiliated with UF. Discounts for Hybrid journals are 10%, and discounts for Gold journals are 15% off the APC list price. Find Elsevier APC list prices here. Cell Press, The Lancet, and certain society press titles are excluded from this pilot program. The discounts will be automatically applied to the publishing option offered by Elsevier once the corresponding author indicates an affiliation with UF. Find more information about OA publishing with Elsevier here.
Access the full text of the Libraries’ agreement with Elsevier here.
Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development - the libraries support this Open Access journal by paying an annual community support fee. Article Processing Charges (APC) for UF authors are waived as a result.
Knowledge Unplatched - the libraries support this crowd-funded initiative by pledging funds toward “unlatching”, or opening access to hundreds of ebooks in the Humanities and Social Sciences. Through this initiative, the libraries not only support open access publishing, but open access to scholarship for individuals around the globe.

Open Access (OA) Definition

- **Green Self Archiving** - authors publish in a journal and archives a freely available version of the manuscript in their institution's repository, or in a national repository (for example, PubMed Central) or post them on other OA sites. Green journal publishers are those that allow self-archiving.
- **Gold OA journals** provide free, immediate access to the articles via publisher web sites that may or may not carry author fees. The Public Library of Science (PLOS) is an example.
- There are hybrid OA journals providing Gold OA for authors who pay an up-front fee to publish on their journal’s web site.

https://guides.uflib.ufl.edu/openaccess/ufinvests
Scholarly Impact

➢ Readership: Who reads this publication? Is this your target audience? Who can read current and archived issues? Is the publication Open Access?

➢ Indexing: Do reputable subject databases include content from this publication?

➢ Citation metrics
Search Engines

Overview

Content

Crawl

Indexing

Troubleshooting

Questions

Inclusion Guidelines for Webmasters

This documentation describes the technology behind indexing of websites with scholarly articles in Google Scholar. It’s written for webmasters who would like their papers included in Google Scholar search results. Detailed technical information is helpful if you’re trying to fix an error in indexing of your own website, or you need to make sure that your article hosting product is compatible with Google and Google Scholar search services.

Individual Authors

If you’re an individual author, it works best to simply upload your paper to your website, e.g., www.example.edu/~professor/paper2009.pdf; and add a link to it on your publications page, such as www.example.edu/~professor/publications.html. Make sure that:

a. the full text of your paper is in a PDF file that ends with “.pdf”,

b. the title of your paper appears in a large font on top of the first page,

c. the authors of the paper are listed right below the title on a separate line, and

d. there’s a bibliography section titled, e.g., “References” or “Bibliography” at the end.

That’s it! Our search robots should normally find your paper and include it in Google Scholar within several weeks.

If it doesn’t work, you could either (1) read more detailed technical guidelines in this documentation or (2) check if your local institutional repository is already configured for indexing in Google Scholar, and upload your papers there.
Indexing by Reputable Databases

The journal evaluation process for the Web of Science Core Collection

Quality Criteria
- ISSN
- Journal Title
- Journal Publisher
- URL (online journals)
- Content Access
- Presence of Peer Review Policy
- Contact Details
- Scholarly Content
- Article Titles and Article Abstracts in English
- Bibliographic Information in Roman Script
- Clarity of Language
- Timeliness and/or Publication Volume
- Website Functionality/Journal Format
- Presence of Ethics Statements
- Editorial Affiliation Details
- Author Affiliation Details

Impact Criteria
- Editorial Board Composition
- Validity of Statements
- Peer Review
- Content Relevance
- Grant Support Details
- Achievements to Community Standards
- Author Distribution
- Appropriate Citations to the Literature

Inclusion criteria by Elsevier’s Compendex

Inclusion criteria by Web of Science
Scholarly Impact

➢ Readership: Who reads this publication? Is this your target audience? Who can read current and archived issues? Is the publication Open Access?

➢ Indexing: Do reputable subject databases include content from this publication?

➢ Citation metrics: Journal Impact Factor, Journal Citation Report, Scopus, SciMago, Eigenfactor.org, Publish or Perish, CWTS Leiden University, altmetrics, h-index, etc.
Research Metrics Examples

Article level metrics

Author level metrics

Journal level metrics
Evaluating Publishing Venues for Quality

Criteria

1. Appropriate scope
2. Quality content
3. Publisher
4. Scholarly impact
5. Author’s rights
6. Professional ethics
Authors’ Rights

- Copyright and licensing: who owns the published content? Is the author permitted to post pre-prints? Are permissions for re-use detailed with a Creative Commons license?

- Transparency of all author-provided fees (Article Processing Charges, APCs)

- What is the expected duration for the review process?

https://creativecommons.org/
Criteria 5

Copyright on Campus: Author Rights

Sharing scholarly research supports collaboration and enhances impact. A faculty author rights policy will offer a legal option to ensure broader dissemination of academic journal articles.

https://digitalpartnerships.uflib.ufl.edu/scholarly-communications/uf-author-rights-policy/
How are alleged instances of research misconduct handled?

Is the publisher a member of a scholarly publishing ethics organization such as Committee on Publishing Ethics (COPE)?

Does the publication have a unique name and secure website to avoid mimicry?
Do Your Due Diligence to Avoid Untrustworthy Publishers

Assess the journal’s
• Editorial Board Composition
• Peer Review Policy
• Transparent Fees

Assess the publisher and publication BEFORE committing funds or losing rights to your research
Dear Stapleton, SC,

Hope that you’re having a good day.

We get to know your research paper titled “[title]”, which has been published in [Journal Name], and the topic of the paper has impressed us a lot.

Due to your rich academic experience and excellent research accomplishments, we will feel honored if you could submit papers to our journal and join as an Editorial Board Member/a Reviewer.
Examples of Mimicry

This is NOT published by Frontiers in Research Foundation!
Choose the Right Venue to Share Your Scholarship

https://thinkchecksubmit.org/
https://vimeo.com/151882443

https://thinkcheckattend.org/
Predatory Publishers: The Problems with Lists

Predatory Publishing Lists

- Jeffrey Beall’s list today
- Cabell’s Journalytics / Predatory Reports
Predatory Publishers: The Case of OMICS Group

The Price for ‘Predatory’ Publishing? $50 Million

The Federal Trade Commission accused Omics International, a publisher in India, of operating hundreds of questionable scientific journals. A federal judge agreed.

Following a complaint by the FTC, a federal judge has ordered a large publisher of online scientific journals to change its business practices -- and to pay an enormous judgment.  Alex Brandon/Associated Press

G. Kolata, NYT 4/3/2019
“It is a common assumption that publications are the output of research. This is a simplistic understanding of the role of publication in science. Publication can just as well be seen as a (vital) part of the research process itself. Publications and citations constitute the scientific discourse.”

Larsen & von Ins, 2010

doi: 10.1007/s11192-010-0202-z
I hope you are now better able to…

1. Understand what authors contribute and are responsible for
2. Use resources to aid in appropriate publication selection
3. Evaluate the quality of a potential publishing venue using six criteria
4. Recognize warning signs of potentially fraudulent publishers
5. Appreciate citation metrics
6. Understand open access publishing options
Selected Relevant Resources

Search for Journals
- ISSN Portal: https://portal.issn.org/
- Web of Science InCites Journal Citation Reports: http://journalprofile.clarivate.com/jif/home/
- Scimago: www.scimagojr.com

Publishing Ethics
- Ethics of Authorship and Peer Review tabs in Responsible Conduct of Research LibGuide: http://guides.uflib.ufl.edu/stemrcr/
- Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE): https://publicationethics.org
- Think. Check. Submit: https://thinkchecksubmit.org/
- Think. Check. Attend: https://thinkcheckattend.org/
- Navigating Questionable Publishing Practices (UF Faculty Senate presentation, 1/30/2020, 17 min): https://ufdc.ufl.edu/IR00011093/00001
- Deciding Where to Publish recording (version 3/18/2020, 43 min): https://ufdc.ufl.edu/IR00011124/00001
Suzanne C. Stapleton, M.S.
Agricultural Sciences & Digital Scholarship Librarian
Marston Science Library
University of Florida

Email: suzanne@ufl.edu
My Profile: https://guides.uflib.ufl.edu/stapleton
Twitter: @stapletonUF