

Manuscript Preparation Guidelines

Citizen Science: Theory And Practice

Thank you for your contribution to *Citizen Science: Theory and Practice*. We welcome your work in this growing field, and we recognize the rigor and effort required to produce quality scholarship. In the interest of supporting your endeavors, we provide the following instructions for manuscript preparation. Failure to adhere to the required elements may delay the processing and therefore the publication of your article. All submissions should be made electronically through [the journal website](#). Our online journal management system will allow you to track your submission and will enable efficient communication with the editors. In the meantime, if you have further questions, please contact managingeditor@citizenscience.org.

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Types of Articles We Publish

- **Research papers:** Quantitative and qualitative research about the practice of citizen science. These articles might, for example, address how learning outcomes differ among models of citizen science; how various features of project design yield high-quality data; the efficacy of various participant recruitment models; and the effectiveness of different technologies for implementing and facilitating a range of projects. Research-focused articles should be 6,000–8,000 words in length.
- **Review and synthesis papers:** Overviews with meta-perspectives of significant topics in citizen science such as conceptual or theoretical reviews or syntheses of methods. Articles focused on review and synthesis should be 6,000–8,000 words in length.
- **Case studies:** Evidence-based reports exploring a project's intended and actual outcomes for education, conservation, research, and/or policy. Case studies should be 6,000–8,000 words in length.
- **Essays:** Perspectives on issues in the field of citizen science, particularly new ideas, controversial positions, and hot-topic highlights. Essays should be 4,000–6,000 words in length.
- **Methods papers:** Descriptions of new (or innovations of old) methods that involve citizen science participants. These papers should elucidate the testing process and results, and should provide suggestions for further methodological improvements or applications. Methods papers should be 4,000–6,000 words in length.
- **Meeting reports:** Descriptions of citizen science meetings, sessions, or conferences. The report will explain how the meeting was developed and implemented to achieve advances in understanding of citizen science theory and practice, and will examine its outcomes. (Individual papers presented at conferences do not fall under this category but should instead be submitted as research papers, review papers, case studies, essays, or methods papers.) Meeting reports should be approximately 1,000–6,000 words in length.

All word limits include the Abstract, the References section, tables, author statements, and figure captions (i.e., anything that will be typeset, or anything other than Supplementary Files). Figures do not contribute to the word count; however, figures and tables should not total significantly more than three pages when typeset.

Communicating Through the Ubiquity Journal Management System

You will likely work with several Editors (the Editor-in-Chief, a Section Editor, and the Managing Editor) in addition to our compositor (typesetter) to bring your work to publication. The Section Editor has relevant expertise in your field, will see your paper through review, and will author a decision letter. Once your paper is accepted, the Managing Editor will usher your paper through copyediting. Please also reach out to the Managing Editor for technical questions regarding the JMS. The compositor does not have access to the JMS but will communicate with you using the email you provide in the metadata. To maintain a shared record and to ensure continuity throughout the process, please use the JMS for all correspondence with Editors. To send an email, simply log into the system, select the relevant paper, click the mail icon next to the Section Editor's name, and include the EiC and ME in Cc. If you reply directly to an Editor's email, it will not be recorded in the system.

Format

Please submit your manuscript in Microsoft Word (preferred) or OpenOffice file format. If using Word, files should be compatible with .doc(x) or .rtf. All material (text, notes, references, captions, and tables) should be presented double spaced using 12-point Arial, Helvetica, or Verdana font. Please do not use smaller fonts or spacing.

Do not number pages, use line numbers, or use the footnote or endnote functions within the files, as these can interfere with copy editing and typesetting. Please ensure that the References section is clean and without any residual coding in the background.

You may use up to three levels of headings, not including the paper title, which must be simple and clearly identifiable. **A First-Level Heading Should Be Title Capped and Bold, Per This Example.** *A second-level heading should be sentence capped, italicized, and bold, per this example.* *A third-level heading should appear sentence capped and italicized, per this example.* Please include at least two sentences of text beneath a first-level heading to set up the sections that follow.

Please do not use section numbers.

The article elements (some of which are optional, as indicated in the detailed section on [structure](#)) should appear in order of title, abstract, keywords, main text (with tables included after the first in-text callout of each table), supplemental files list, data availability statement, ethics and consent statement, acknowledgments, authors' contributions statement, competing interests statement, funding statement, and references,

followed by figure captions. All figures should be submitted separately from the text and captions and labeled as they are called out in the text (e.g., Figure 1, Figure 2, etc.).

Length

Essays and Methods papers should read 4,000–6,000 words in length, meeting reports should be between 1,000 and 6,000 words, and all other submissions should be 6,000–8,000 words, including all references.

Style

The primary style manual in use at *Citizen Science: Theory and Practice* are *Webster's Dictionary* and *The Chicago Manual of Style* for submissions in American English, although we welcome and publish submissions in British English.

Structure

Title Page

To ensure double blind peer review (optional), please create a title page that lists only the title, the abstract, and any keywords. Author information is entered online upon submission.

Abstract

All articles except meeting reports must be prefaced by an abstract of no more than 250 words that summarizes the main arguments and conclusions of the article. Please briefly state why the work is important/new, the methods used, and the key findings. It is the journal's view that abstracts provide an opportunity for clear cross-disciplinary communication. This section must have the heading "Abstract" and be easily identified from the start of the main text.

Keywords

A list of up to six keywords may be placed below the abstract (optional), under the heading "Keywords." Keywords should be lowercase unless they are proper nouns, and they should be separated by commas.

The Keywords should also be added to the metadata when making the initial online submission. Note that selection of appropriate keywords assists the editorial team in assigning appropriate reviewers to your paper. If your keywords change at any time between submission and publication, *it is important that you bring this to the attention of the Managing Editor, to ensure updates to your submission on the back end.*

Main Text

The body of the submission should be structured in a logical and easy-to-follow manner. A clear introduction section should be given that allows non-specialists in the subject an understanding of the publication and a background of the issue(s) involved. Methods, results, discussion and conclusion sections may then follow to clearly detail the information and research being presented.

Conclusions (mandatory for most types of papers)

Please include a short summary of the key points of your paper. Mention of any applicable future directions is encouraged, particularly for research, review, and methods papers, as well as case studies.

Supplemental Materials (optional)

Supplemental figures, tables, data sets, or other files that will link to the main publication should be listed after the Conclusions section with a corresponding number, title, and short description, e.g., Supplemental file 1: Appendix. Scientific data related to the experiments.

Any supplemental materials should be cited in the main text.

Supplemental files will not be typeset or copyedited so they must be provided in their final form. They will be assigned a DOI and linked to from the publication.

Data Availability (if applicable)

If data used in the research project has been made available, a statement should be added to direct the reader to the files or to give guidance regarding access.

If data used in the research project has not been made available, a statement confirming this should be added, along with the reasoning for the decision.

Ethics and Consent (if applicable)

Please include a statement detailing ethics committee approval for your research, including the name of the ethics committee and the reference number of the approval. If appropriate, please provide additional statements of individual consent. For further information and to ensure compliance with our Ethics and Consent Policy, please see our Editorial Guidelines on Ethics and Consent [here](#).

Acknowledgments (optional)

Any acknowledgments must be headed and in a separate paragraph, placed after the main text but before the reference list. See the Authorship Guidelines [here](#) for more information.

Funding Information (if applicable)

If the research has received a funding grant, then the grant provider and grant number should be detailed. If your funding agency uses a set format for this information, please be sure to use it.

Competing Interests (mandatory)

If any of the authors have any competing interests, these must be declared. A short paragraph should be placed before the references. Guidelines for competing interests can be found [here](#). If there are no competing interests to declare, then the following statement should be present: The author(s) has/have no competing interests to declare.

Authors' Contributions Statement (if applicable)

Please include a short paragraph specifying the contribution of each author in narrative form. This statement should appear after the competing interests section and before any notes. It may include attribution for conception, design, data collection or contribution, analysis, writing, or other such contributions. For equal author contribution, please declare that all authors contributed equally to all aspects of the manuscript. Individuals listed must fit within the definition of an author, as per our [authorship guidelines](#).

Notes

Notes (sometimes referred to as endnotes) will appear directly above the References. Notes should be used only where crucial clarifying information needs to be conveyed. Please place in-text note numbers in superscript immediately following the end punctuation of a sentence. Please do not use the footnote format.

References

All references cited within the submission must be listed at the end of the main text file in a separate section entitled "References." *Citizen Science: Theory and Practice* uses unnumbered, name and year (Harvard) references. For further assistance, please see the section Citations and References.

Citations and References

In-text citations

- Any time information from other sources is used, it must be cited in the text so that it is clear that external material has been used. This can take a couple of different forms. If the author is mentioned by name in the text, the year (in

parentheses) should follow the name. If the author is not mentioned in the text, the surname(s) and year should be inserted (in parentheses) after the relevant text. Multiple citations should be separated by a semi-colon and should be listed in order of publication date, earliest to most recent.

Both Brown (2010) and Jones (2013) showed that...

The statistics clearly show that this is untrue (Brown 2010; Jones 2013).

- The in-text citation should immediately follow the surname. If a later citation is unavoidable, the name will need to be repeated; however, this often reads awkwardly (see last example).

Dorman (2017) offers various examples of “the distance between” (p. 45).

Dorman (2017, p. 45) offers various examples of “the distance between.”

Dorman offers various examples of “the distance between” (Dorman 2017, p. 45).

- If a citation has three or fewer authors, all should be listed.

Reed, Davis, and Turk (2012) found that the majority...

- In cases of four or more authors, list, either directly or indirectly, only the first author’s surname, appended by et al.

Green et al. (1995) found that the majority...

Recent research (Green et al. 1995) found that the majority...

- If there are two or more citations from the same author in the same year, then they should be delineated using lowercase letters following the year. (In the reference list, these should be alphabetized by author names. If all authors are identical, they should be alphabetized by title.)

(Jones 2013a,b)

- Use an author’s initials in a citation to distinguish different authors with the same surname and publication date.

e.g., (S.J. Jones 2018) to indicate

Kroner SJ. 2018. Quantifying outreach efforts in Saxon, South Dakota. *Rural Realities*. 9(4): 33–122. DOI: [https:// . . .](https://...)

rather than

Kroner T. 2018. *Rural Realities in the 21st Century: Community, Outreach, and Results*. Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press.

- If citing two separate works in two separate years by the same author, do not repeat the author name in the callout.

(Jones 2015, 2016)

- If specific pages are being cited, a comma should follow the year, followed by p. and the page number.

(Brown 2004, p. 65; Jones 2013, pp. 143–145)

- For publications authored and published by organizations or groups, use the short form of the organization's name or its acronym for in-text citations in lieu of the full name.

(ICRC 2000) not (International Committee of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies 2000)

- Do not include URLs in parenthetical citations. Instead, cite the author or page title in the text, and include all the details, including the URL, in the reference list.
- Unpublished information should be cited in the text in parentheses as personal communication, as submitted to a particular journal or as unpublished data, listing all authors. Do not include unpublished information in the References section.

(J. Lawrence, T. Harding, A. Einstein, and W.J. Bryan, unpublished data).

- Treat author's names in sentence format as authors rather than as a text, unless formulating the sentence in such a manner would be awkward.

Reference list

- Place full citations in a reference list at the end of the text file.
- This journal uses the Harvard style system of references, in alphabetical order of author surnames. Please see the following section on formatting for further details.
- List all authors on any given publication in the References list.

- All works within the reference list should be called out within the text. Works that have not been cited in the main text, but which the author wishes to share with the reader, must be listed as additional information in endnotes explaining the relevance of the work.
- If multiple works by the same author are being listed, re-type the author's name for each entry rather than using a long dash.
- For compound author names, alphabetize by first word and alphabetize further word by word.

de Vos, R
Delano, A

Please note that Dutch particles such as *van* and *ter* are usually lowercase when part of full name but may be capitalized when only the last name is referenced.

- Always use a period after Jr., and use no further punctuation with II or III.

Connors Jr., AF
Connors III, AF

- Spell out the full names of all journals listed in the References section. Do not use abbreviations.
- DOIs should be included for all reference entries whenever possible.

Reference formatting

- **Abstract:**

Author, AA. Year. Title. *Journal Name*, Volume(Issue): Page (Type) DOI:

Lewis, CS, Pullman, P and L'engle, M. 1979. At the confluence of politics and religion. *Journal of Children's Literature*, 279(4): 100 (Abstr.)
<https://doi.org/...>

- **Books:**

Author, AA. Year. *Title*. Place of publication: Publisher.

Adam, DJ. 1984. *Stakeholder Analysis*. 2nd ed. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.

Silverman, DF and Propp, KK. (eds.) 1990. *The Active Interview*. Beverly Hills, CA: Sage.

- **Bulletin:**

Author, AA, Author, BB, and Author CC. Date. *Title*. Title and Number of Bulletin, Sponsoring Body, Location.

Jones, A, Crane, B, and Harrington, S. 2003. *Distribution of benefits*. Technical Bulletin 445, Organization for Fair Labor Practices, Washington, DC.

- **Chapter within books:**

Author, A. Year. Title chapter. In: Editor, E and Editor, F (eds.) *Book Title*. Place of publication: Publisher. Page range.

Achebe, C. 1995. Colonialist criticism. In: Ashcroft, B et al. *The Post Colonial Studies Reader*. London: Routledge. pp. 57–61.

- **Conference papers and proceedings:**

Author, A. Year. Title of chapter. In: *Title of Conference Proceedings*, Location on Date, pp. page span.

Lynch, M. 2003. Dialogue in an age of terror. In: *The Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association*, Philadelphia, PA on 18 August 2003, pp. 4–7.

- **Database:**

Host Organization. Date. *Title*. Database Name, Location, last update. URL

National Institute for Citizen Science Initiatives. 2019. *Citizen science participation across Mississippi from 2000 to 2015*. National Institute for Citizen Science Database, New York, NY, updated December 5, 2019. <http://citizenscience.gov/participation/>

- **Edited texts**

Lock, S. 2001. Research Misconduct 1974–1990: A Partial History. In: Lock, S, Wells, F and Farthing, M (eds.), *Fraud and Misconduct in Biomedical Research*, 3rd ed., 51–63. London: BMJ Books.

- **Journal articles:**

Author, A. Year. Title. *Journal Name*, Volume(Issue): Page. DOI:
[http://dx.doi.org/...](http://dx.doi.org/)

Martin, L. 2010. Bombs, bodies and biopolitics: Securitizing the subject at airport security. *Social and Cultural Geography*, 11(1): 17–34. DOI:
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/14649360903414585>

- **Journal articles in press:**

Author, A. 2020. Title. *Journal Name*, In press. DOI:

Field, S. 2020. Theoretical models for development. *The Journal*, In press.
DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/> . .

- **Journal articles with an erratum:**

Author, A. Year. Title of article. *Journal Name*, Volume(Issue):Page.
Erratum. Date of erratum. *Journal in Which Erratum Appears*,
Volume:Page.

Harding, W. 2012. Why I never make mistakes. *Journal of Science*,
220(5):114–115. Erratum. 2012. *Journal of Science*, 239:40.

- **Newspaper/Magazine articles (print):**

Author, A. Year. Title. *Newspaper*, Date of publication, Page.

Tate, P. 2007. Illicit organ trade increasing. *Jordan Times*, 6 June, p. 3.

- **Newspaper articles (online):**

Author, A. Year. Title. *Newspaper*, Date of publication, [URL and last
accessed date].

Patel, SS. 2005. Climate; in a marsh, sifting the past and seeing the future.
New York Times, 6 November [online access at
<http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?res=9800EEDF173EF935A35752C1A9639C8B63> last accessed 28 April 2014].

(Please note the omission of the definite article from the titles of
newspapers in the References section.)

- **Organizational publications/Grey literature:**

Author group. Year. *Title*. Place of publication: Publisher

World Health Organization (WHO). 2010. *The world health report – Health systems financing: the path to universal coverage*. Geneva, Switzerland: WHO.

Please note that if an organization is best known by its acronym, and that acronym is used commonly throughout the text, you may want to list the acronym first followed by the spelled-out version in parentheses.

- **Pamphlets**

Please note that pamphlets should be treated as books, to whatever degree possible, as they are stand-alone publications.

- **Reports:**

Author, AA. Year. *Title*. Name and Number of Report, Place.

Younger, IM and Burns, NR. 2007. *Stapler functionality in elementary school classrooms*. US Department of Education Technical Report 22-7-455-49334759748, Office of Basic Education, Baltimore, MD.

- **Theses and dissertations:**

Author, A. Year. *Title*. Unpublished thesis (PhD), Institution.

Yudis, A. 2004. *Failed responsibility of the media in the war on Iraq*. Unpublished thesis (PhD), University of Manchester.

Note: Please add DOI or link when available.

- **Webpages / PDFs:**

Author, A. Year. Title, Date of publication. Available at URL [Last accessed date month year].

Pascual, Amb. C. 2005. Stabilization and reconstruction: building peace in a hostile environment. Prepared statement to Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, 16 June 2005. Available at <http://2001-2009.state.gov/s/crs/rls/rm/48644.htm> (Last accessed 14 August 2012).

(Please note that this example also contains an example of how to treat an author's title such as Ambassador.)

Graphic Components

Figures

Figures can be an engaging way to capture and convey a tremendous amount of complex and important information. But if your figure is not laid out artfully and logically, its contents may be lost on the reader. Please ensure that the figures submitted to Citizen Science: Theory and Practice reflect the quality of your scholarship. Please note that an editor may ask you to re-render any figures that do not meet our publication standards.

All figures may be included in the file of the original submission, after a separate page containing the figure legends, for reviewers' ease of reference. These will, however, need to be removed before typesetting if your paper is accepted. The pages should be clearly marked to indicate figure numbers. The figures should also be uploaded separately as supplemental files during the submission process, if possible in color and at a resolution of at least **300dpi**. Each file should not be more than 20MB. Standard formats accepted are: JPG, TIFF, GIF, PNG, EPS. For line drawings, please provide the original vector file (e.g. .ai, or .eps).

- Figures should be clearly labeled, and a key provided when necessary.
- Please limit figures and tables to not significantly more than three pages in total when typeset.
- Figures must be called out within the main text, in consecutive order, using Arabic numerals.

Figure 1, Figure 2, Figure 3, etc.

- Figures should have a descriptive caption, which will appear beneath the figure. Captions should clearly and concisely summarize the content and/or use of the image.

Figure 1 1685 map of London.

Figure 1 1685 map of London. Note the addition of St. Paul's Cathedral, absent from earlier maps.

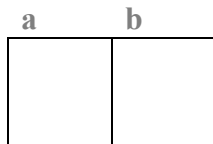
- A matching figure number should lead the figure caption in bold.

Figure 1 Therapeutic options presented to respondents in control group.

- Abbreviations should be spelled out in the figure captions in the event that the figure may be lifted from the context as part of a talk, etc., and not all viewers will have the benefit of the spelled-out version elsewhere in the text. Place the long form of abbreviations in an alphabetized list at the end of the figure caption, punctuated as follows:

BRAINS, Biobehavioral Research Awards for Innovative New Scientists;
GANDALF, gas and absorption line fitting algorithm;
SECSY, spin echo correlated spectroscopy.

- Label any figure panels with lowercase, bold, roman-script letters.



- Call out specific figure panels in the text using phrasing such as

Figure *1a* shows that...

The results show that those who received training fared better overall (Figure *1a*).

- In the figure caption, describe each panel, calling out the panel letters in italics.

Figure 1 (*a*) Water levels 1 week before Hurricane Alan and (*b*) water levels 1 week after Hurricane Alan.

Figure 1 Panel *a* shows water levels...

- Terms and phrases within a figure should be presented in sentence-style capitalization, with the first letter of the first word capitalized and subsequent words lowercase.

Measurable actions resulting from engagement in citizen science.

- Label axes of graphs clearly, even if what's being shown seems obvious, e.g., months.

- Please ensure that any photos submitted as figures are of high resolution and retain 300 ppi (pixels per inch) at the final desired size. The image should not be blurry or pixelated even when zoomed.
- Do not compress the files before submitting them.
- Save the “art” files separately from the captions, which should be submitted after your text as a Word document. All figures should have a descriptive caption.
- Please secure the proper permissions for any image that you reuse or modify and credit accordingly in the figure caption.
- If using images from an archive, please provide the name of the archive, the collection, and the acquisition number.

Figure 1 Firemen try to free workers buried under piles of concrete and metal girders. Photo: Claude-Michel Masson, published in *Le Figaro* (16 January, 1964), p. 18. Reproduced with permission of the photographer.

- If your figure file includes text, please use Arial, Helvetica, or Verdana font so that it will match the typeset text.
- Please note that figures will be placed in the text after the first figure call-out of that particular figure.

Tables

- Please limit figures and tables to not significantly more than three pages in total when typeset.
- Tables must be created using a word processor’s table function rather than in tabbed text.
- Tables should be submitted in the body of the text where you would like them to appear.
- All tables must be cited within the main text, and assigned Arabic numerals in consecutive order.

As shown in Table 1, this was the most effective method.

All of the data recovered correlates with our hypothesis (Table 1).

- Do not use abbreviations such as “Tab” to call out tables in the text.
- Make sure the table is aligned in such a way that it’s easy to read and does not generate confusion.
- Write out repeated entries.
- Text within the table should be sentence capped, e.g., the first word is capitalized and subsequent words are lowercase except if they are proper nouns.
- In columns of numbers, align decimal points.
- The table should have a descriptive title that outlines the contents of the table. This should clearly and concisely summarize the content and/or use of the table, and it will appear above the table. A short additional table legend is optional for tables that call for further description, and this will appear beneath the table.
- Footnotes, if used, appear at the bottom of the table, beneath the legend. Each table should begin footnote numbers anew.
- References should appear in the body of the table and not as a footnote.
- Tables should not include:
 - Rotated text
 - Color to denote meaning, as it will not display the same on all devices
 - Images
 - Vertical or diagonal lines
 - Multiple parts such as Table 1a and Table 1b.
- Please note that if there are more columns than can fit on a single page, the table will be placed horizontally, in landscape format. If it is too large for landscape format, the table will be spread across two pages.

Author Writing and Proofreading Guide

Please follow the instructions below when preparing your manuscript for submission. Do note that the house style, as outlined in part here, overrides any (American or UK) published style guide. Please proofread your manuscript prior to submission, as errors can obfuscate meaning.

Acronyms and abbreviations

- Spell out the words that make up acronyms and abbreviations on first use, indicating the acronym or abbreviation in parentheses immediately thereafter. Then use the acronym or abbreviation for all subsequent references. Exceptions include terms such as AIDS, DVD, and TV, which are sufficiently common that they do not require the full text on first use and may be more recognizable to the reader than the spelled-out version. More examples can be found at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Manual_of_Style/Abbreviations#Miscellanea

Research completed by the World Health Organization (WHO) shows progress in battling the AIDS pandemic.

- Abbreviations should appear in capital letters without full stops.

USA, not U.S.A.

- Common abbreviations with Latin origin do not follow this rule; they should be lower case and should include full stops.

e.g., i.e., etc.

- Avoid abbreviations in titles and headings unless the spelled-out version is extremely long or the abbreviated term is likely more familiar to readers than the long form.
- Do not use abbreviations in text for the words day, month, week, year, hour, minute, second, figure, table, ton, tonne, and versus. If abbreviations regarding time (day, month, week, year, hour, minute, and second) are necessary for the sake of readability in a figure or table, provide a list of abbreviations and spelled-out terms in the captions.

- Names of months must be written in full in the main text. If displayed as part of a table or dataset, an abbreviation is acceptable as long as the meaning is still clear. Months should always begin with a capital letter.

January → Jan, February → Feb

- Abbreviations of unit measures should be used only when they follow a numeral, and use the same abbreviation for singular and plural.

1 min, 5 min, 5 minutes, or a few minutes, but never “a few min”

- Spell out genus/species name on first occurrence, but abbreviate the genus name thereafter.

Piranga olivacea → *P. olivacea*

Apostrophes

Use an apostrophe before the –s in singular nouns and after the –s in plural nouns. Do not use an apostrophe in plurals of numbers or with acronyms, e.g., 1980s.

Capitalization

- In the title of your article, capitalize all nouns, pronouns, adjectives, verbs, adverbs, subordinate conjunctions (e.g., as, because, though), and prepositions of five letters or more. Lowercase articles, prepositions of four letters or fewer, and coordinating conjunctions (e.g., and, or, but), unless they are the first word of the title or immediately follow a colon.

Slip-Sliding on a Yellow Brick Road: Stabilization Efforts in Afghanistan

Person Recognition Is Easier from Faces than from Voices

For the Love of Snail Mail: An Epistolary Ode

- First-level headings in the text should use title capitalization and appear in bold. Second-level headings should use sentence capitalization, capitalizing only the first letter and proper nouns, and should appear in bold italics. Third-level headings should be capitalized in sentence style and italicized. See examples in the section on [Format](#).
- Capitalize proper names, trade names, acronyms, titles, and the first word of each sentence, unless the sentence begins with a term that is intentionally lowercase. Do not capitalize the spelled-out versions of acronyms unless the acronym

represents proper names, e.g., World Health Organization (WHO) as opposed to memorandum of understanding (MOU).

- Capitalize the full names of institutions and departments.

We toured the Department of Sociology at New York University.

- Capitalize the first word of a full sentence following a colon. Do not capitalize lists following a colon unless the list is composed of proper names.
- Capitalize the full words used to describe parts of the article (e.g., Figure 1 or Table 5). When referring to a specific section by name, do not capitalize section (e.g., “In the section Capitalization, authors will find information on styling their headlines.”) Do not capitalize words used to describe parts of other texts (e.g., [Tennille and Captain 1975, figure 1]).
- Lowercase general terms, e.g., a figure, this team, a dozen reports.
- Capitalize the first part of a hyphenated term but not the second, unless it is a proper noun. The following sample is from a third-level heading.

Round-up, Big-Biochar Day

Commas

- To avoid misinterpretation of your intent, please use the Oxford or serial comma to separate all of the elements in a series. If a comma is already found in any of the elements (e.g., phrases), use semicolons to separate all elements in the series.
- Use a comma in numbers of four or more digits except when the number indicates a page or a year.

1,500 years

the year 1500

- Use commas to set off nonrestrictive clauses, or clauses that could be omitted without changing the meaning of the main clause. Do not use commas to set off restrictive clauses.

The holidays, which were stressful, left Adam in a state of complete exhaustion.

The holidays that Adam enjoyed were Christmas and Secretary’s Day.

- Do not use a comma within a compound predicate unless its omission might cause a misreading.

The volunteer in question gathered her data in May of this year and requested that someone else take on the analysis.

The researcher recognized the woman who drove by, and cried out for help.

Currencies

- Use £ for British Pound Sterling and € for Euro

£50

€100

- Use US\$, C\$, NZ\$, or A\$ to distinguish among the different dollar currencies.
- If a currency might be unclear to the reader from the symbol, write it in full on first use and then abbreviate it thereafter.

45 Egyptian Pounds (E£ or EGP)

- Do not put a space between the currency symbol and the number.

Dashes

- En dashes can be used to replace “to” when indicating a range and should have no spaces around it. The en dash is also used after or before open compounds when prefixes or modifiers are present.

10–25 years

pages 10–65

pre–Civil War

open ocean–studies indicate

- Do not use an en dash when the words “from,” “of,” etc. precede the range. Instead, spell out “to.”

from 10 to 25 years

- Em dashes denote change of thought or interruption to a main sentence and can replace commas, parentheses, colons, or semicolons. They should be used sparingly.

The president’s niece—daughter of his younger brother—caused a media scandal when . . .

Endnotes and footnotes

- House style is to use endnotes (rather than footnotes), which will be referred to as “Notes” in the published article and will appear at the end of the main text, just before the References. Place endnote markers after the end punctuation of a sentence. Notes should be used only where crucial clarifying information needs to be conveyed. Avoid using notes for purposes of referencing.

Formulae

- Editors will not edit formulae, so the author must proof them carefully. If special software has been used to create formulae, they will appear in the publication exactly the way they are presented in the submission.

Fractions

- Fractions must be spelled in non-hyphenated words when presented in the main text. When presented as part of a table or dataset, numerals are acceptable as long as the meaning is still clear.

Three quarters of the study sample . . .

Grammar

- All submissions must be in American or UK English. If you are an author for whom English is not your first language, we encourage you to seek the assistance of a native English speaker with strong attention to linguistic detail *prior to submission*, as a lack of clarity may affect the review process as well as our ability to publish your work. However, please keep in mind that structural revisions may still be requested by reviewers. Once your paper is accepted for publication, the final version will be copy edited by our editorial team and will work closely with you to ensure that any changes maintain the integrity and intent of your efforts.

There are many professional services available to non-native English speakers/writers, such as <https://www.sfep.org.uk/directory/> for UK English, but neither Ubiquity nor Citizen Science: Theory and Practice recommend or are affiliated with any such services. If you require support but are short on funds, AuthorAid (<https://www.authoraid.info/en/>) offers resources and has partnerships

with language editing services. If you are a member of AuthorAid, discounts may be available (<https://www.authoraid.info/en/resources/details/750/>).

- Authors may adhere to either American or UK rules of grammar as long as the chosen rules are used consistently and match the spelling format (see “Spelling”). However, our house style overrides either. For example, we will always use the Oxford or serial comma. *Citizen Science: Theory and Practice* recommends *The Elements of Style* and *The Chicago Manual of Style* as guides to American English grammar.
- The word “data” is plural and therefore takes a plural verb; therefore, there are either few or many data to support your argument (rather than the oft-used construction “there is little data”).
- When using or or nor to connect a singular and plural, ensure that the verb agrees with the component closest to the verb.

Neither the cat nor the dogs were in any position to contradict the veterinarian’s well-argued position.

Neither the miners nor the canary was looking forward to returning to the mine.

- Please use tense clearly and consistently throughout. In general, present tense is used for generalizations and ongoing conditions, whereas past tense is used, for example, for observations that took place within a study.
- Please note the placement of modifiers such as “only,” as misplacement can change your intended meaning.
- “That” is a restrictive pronoun. It indicates which of the things in question is meant and is not set off by a comma. “Which” is a nonrestrictive pronoun, set off by a comma, that adds information about the only thing in question. .

The printer that is on my desk is out of paper.

The printer, which is on my desk, is out of paper.

Hyphens

- Although the rules of hyphen usage can vary with editorial preference, in general, house style favors the use of closed compounds whenever such is found in Merriam-Webster’s Dictionary or the Chicago Manual of Style, or has entered the common lexicon. As such, your usage may be changed during copy editing to

standardize per our house style. Please ensure that any such edits do not alter your intent.

nonviolent, online, socioeconomic, subzero, transatlantic

- Hyphens should be used in cases where their omission may cause confusion or interfere with ease of reading, or to separate double vowels;

un-ionized, pro-life, anti-intellectual

- with compound adjectives to avoid confusion and to add a prefix to an already-hyphenated term;

non-drug-related deaths

- in compounds introduced by well, ill, lesser, etc., except when they follow the noun to which they refer;

the well-read student
the student was well read

- and when numbers are combined with units of measure (either spelled out or abbreviated) to function as modifiers.

ten-foot pole
10-mm needle

- The second part of some hyphenated or closed compounds may be used only once in a series.

Neither over- nor underfunded programs showed any improvement following . . .

- Compounds formed using adverbs ending in -ly are not hyphenated.

largely irrelevant data

Italics

- Italicize the names of books and journals within the text and in the References section.
- Italicize third-level headings.

- Italicize isolated foreign-language words within the text only if they are likely to be unfamiliar to your readers. Terms such as those that follow are not italicized because they are commonly used in English.

ad infinitum, a priori, avant-garde, et al., etc., faux pas, gestalt, in vitro, per se, post mortem, versus

- Please use italics for emphasis sparingly and only when you believe there is no other way to convey your intent.

Lists

- Use bullet points to denote a list that includes items without hierarchy (order of value). When a list indicates a specific sequence, then its items should be numbered. Lists should be used sparingly to maximize their impact.

Numbers

- Spell out the numbers zero to nine; use numerals for the number 10 or higher.

This research examined 5 case studies.
This research examined 12 case studies.

- If a sentence includes a series of numbers, numerals must be used in each instance, even where numbers are less than ten.

Artifacts were found at depths of 5, 9, and 29 cm.

- Use either words or numerals for large whole numbers (e.g., one million or 1,000,000) but keep the use consistent throughout the text.
- If a number appears as part of a dataset in conjunction with a symbol or as part of a table, use a numeral. Do not separate the numeral from the symbol with a space. Do, however, put a space between numerals and units of measure.

5%

5 km

- If a sentence starts with a number it must be spelled out. Preferably, rewrite the sentence so that it no longer starts with the number.

Fifteen examples were found to exist ...

The results showed that 15 examples existed ...

- Use the % symbol with a number rather than spelling out the word percent. Use the symbol with both numbers in a range, except in an en-dashed span.

approximately 10% to 20% of participants, but

10–20%

- When a number consists of more than three digits, it must be split by a comma after every three digits to the left of the decimal place.

5,492

23,654

- Do not use a comma for a decimal place.

2.43 *NOT* 2,43

- Numbers that are less than zero must have a “0” precede the decimal point.

0.24 *NOT* .24

- Use numerals for years, decades, and centuries.

1995

1980s

16th century

Quotations

This section outlines how to paraphrase or quote another’s work. Additional instructions are provided in the Citations and References section.

- When referring to the findings of others, include an in-text citation immediately following your discussion.

According to Bird and Wolfe (2016), interspecies relationships are not as fraught as one might imagine.

It has been shown repeatedly that gray squirrels recover only 26% of the nuts they bury, and this can have a large impact on forest regrowth (Bird and Wolfe 2018; Fox and Hound 2016; Marten and Beetle 2010).

- If you wish to use a sentence or essential phrase from someone else’s work, set it off in double quotation marks and cite its source, including the page number from which it was taken, if available. Please keep the number of direct quotations to a minimum.

It was not without some amount of surprise that we came across the assertion that “hobby horse enthusiasts experienced a 14% drop in cardiovascular events over a five-year period, and dressage participants in particular reported a statistically significant increase in happiness” (Korhonen 2019, 23).

Turner (2015) wrote, “It is not the end.”

- Quotations longer than three lines must be indented and set apart from the rest of the text. Quotations of significant length may require that you obtain permission from the author to republish, even when attributed properly. We encourage sparing use of longer quotations.
- If part of the material being quoted is omitted, use ellipses (three spaced dots) to indicate the omission. Ellipses should also have a space on either side, except when they fall at the end of a sentence. If the sentence is deliberately incomplete, as in the second example below, three dots are used. If the ellipses are meant to indicate the end of one sentence followed by a break in quoted material and the beginning of a new sentence, four dots are used. The first is the full stop, which abuts the last word, followed by the three-dot ellipses (as in the third example). Do not use ellipses to indicate an omission at the beginning of a quotation. Do not use square brackets around ellipses.

“Each sample . . . was processed in identical environments.”

Please look at the sentence beginning with, “Happy families are all alike . . .” and tell me who wrote it.

“There was widespread support for culturally appropriate interventions. . . . Ultimately, the village elders voted to allow the research to continue, contingent upon full access to all data collected.”

Of course one could argue, “humanity is won by continuing to play in face of certain defeat.”

- Periods and commas are always placed inside quotation marks, whereas semicolons, exclamation points, and question marks appear outside quotation marks unless they are part of the quotation.

- Do not use single quotation marks unless you are indicating a quotation within a quotation.
- House style discourages the use of quotation marks (or italics) to introduce a term, to indicate use of a term in a nonstandard way, or to emphasize unless drawing such attention is necessary to avoid misreading.
- If you wish to publish any illustrations, images, or tables from other publications, it is your responsibility to obtain the necessary permissions. If any portion of such has been revised, please indicate this in the caption. Further details and examples can be found in the section Figures and Tables.
- Words added to the text of an original quote to enhance clarity must be placed within square brackets.

“The country [France] was ranked number one for cuisine.”

Spacing

- End-of-sentence punctuation should be followed by only *one* space.
- Insert a space before and after symbols used as verbs, e.g., for equal signs and for greater than and less than ($>$, $<$) and plus and minus (+, -), except when plus and minus signs are used as adjectives.
- When plus and minus signs function as adjectives, use a space before but not after.
- Do not use a space between a number and a degree symbol, whether F or C.

82°F

- Do not use a space between a number and a percent sign.

99%

- Do not use a space before or after symbols used to indicate longitude and latitude.

16°18'51.2"S 145°29'54.8"W

Spelling

- Authors are welcome to use American or British spellings as long as the chosen spelling standard is used consistently throughout. For American English, copy

editors will refer to Webster's Dictionary. For British English, copy editors will refer to the New Oxford Dictionary.

Colour (British) vs. Color (US)

Centre (British) vs. Center (US)

- For proper nouns and institutional titles, the official, original spelling must be used.

World Health Organization, not World Health Organisation

Trade names

- Unless absolutely necessary, trade names should be avoided in favor of generic names to ensure impartiality. If a trade name is used, its inclusion must be put in context and explained/justified.

Underlining

- Do not underline terms, titles, or headings.

Units of measurement

- Symbols following a number to denote a unit of measurement must be taken from the latest SI brochure (<https://www.bipm.org/en/publications/si-brochure/>).

Submitting Your Manuscript

Entering Metadata at Time of Submission

The names of all authors, affiliations, contact details, biography, and corresponding author information must be completed online as part of the submission process. Please **enter your names exactly as you would like them to appear in the publication**, as what is found in the metadata at the time of publication will override the way names appear in the copyedited article.

Author names must include a forename and a surname. Forenames cannot be entered as initials.

- J. Bloggs is not preferred.
- Joe Bloggs will enhance the “findability” of your publication.
- Your affiliation should include department, institution, city, and country. Institution and country are mandatory. Please list them exactly as you would like them to appear in the publication.

If it becomes necessary to add an author to the submission, or to change the name of an author or the title of the article, please notify the Managing Editor and the Editor-in-Chief. Upon publication, the typesetter will pull such information from the metadata directly into the published article, so it’s important that we attend to its accuracy.

The Abstract and Keywords are added to the metadata at the time of initial submission.

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To facilitate our publicity efforts on your behalf and to enhance your ability to share your published article with your colleagues and online connections, please provide your Twitter handle and any other applicable usernames or links at the time of submission.

Special Collections

All papers submitted for inclusion in special collections undergo the same peer review process as regular submissions.

All upcoming special collections will be announced on the CSA blog (<https://www.citizenscience.org/category/csa-blog/>) and elsewhere. Following a call for papers for a special collection, authors can submit abstracts directly to the editorial team using the instructions provided in the call. The authors of accepted abstracts will then be invited to submit a full paper. Before submitting, please ensure that your paper conforms

to the guidelines we've set forth in this document, then submit your paper and figures to the journal through our journal management system (JMS) to begin the process of peer review.

For your paper to be considered for a special collection, you must indicate the intended collection in the title of your paper upon submission. Your title should read: SC: Abbreviated Title of Special Collection: Your Working Title. For example, SC: Higher Ed: Drivers of Participation in Citizen Science Among Secondary Students Considering Dropout. If your paper is accepted, the title will be edited for publication in the paper and in the article metadata at the copy editing stage.

Submission Checklists

As part of the submission process, authors are required to check off their submission's compliance with all of the following items. Submissions that do not adhere to these guidelines may be returned.

Required elements

- The submission has not been previously published, nor is it before another journal for consideration (or an explanation has been provided in the cover letter provided on submission).
- Any third-party-owned materials have been identified with appropriate credit lines, and permission obtained from the copyright holder for all formats of the journal (e.g., reproduced or adapted figures or tables).
- All authors have given permission to be listed on the submitted paper and all authors satisfy the authorship guidelines.
- The submission file is in an editable Microsoft Word (preferred) or OpenOffice file format. The text should be 12-point Arial, Helvetica, or similar font (to correspond with our online publication font), double-spaced, with 1" margins.
- The references have been formatted according to Harvard and House styles, and are provided in plain text or rtf Word format free of residual background formatting from reference generation.
- All DOIs for the references have been provided, when available.
- All tables and figures are called out in the text. Tables are included within the text document, whilst figure files are uploaded as supplemental files.

- Figures/images have a resolution of at least 300 dpi. Each file is no more than 20MB per file. The files are in one of the following formats: JPG, TIFF, GIF, PNG, EPS. To maximize quality, the original source file is preferred.
- The text adheres to the stylistic and bibliographic requirements outlined in the Author Guidelines. If submitting to a peer-reviewed section of the journal, your review will automatically be blind, but you may also choose an optional double blind peer review by indicating your preference in your cover letter and providing all the necessary documents in both blinded and unblinded formats, clearly labeled in the uploading process (not in the file title) for discernment by the editorial team.
- Authors agree that (if applicable) the contents of their study meet the journal policy on ethics and consent.
- All metadata were entered correctly and will be updated by the author if any further changes are necessary. I understand that Ubiquity Press will publish this information exactly as it was entered.
- The manuscript has been proofread, and authors are reasonably certain that it meets the editorial standards set forth in the guidelines provided.
- ORCID numbers have been added to the metadata.
- Keywords (up to 6) and Abstract (where required, and no more than 250 words) have been uploaded to the metadata.

Optional elements

- Figures are submitted separately, following a text document with corresponding figure captions.
- Any tables should appear in the main text.
- Supplemental materials have been proofread. I understand that they will be published exactly as they are submitted.
- Acknowledgments and ethics statements have been provided, as needed.
- Twitter handle and any other relevant social media information has been provided.