

Instructions to Authors

Journal of Media Psychology

Theories, Methods, and Applications

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Journal of Media Psychology (JMP) is committed to publishing original, high-quality papers which cover the broad range of media psychological research. This peer-reviewed journal focuses on how human beings select, use, and experience various media as well as how media (use) can affect their cognitions, emotions, and behaviors. Submissions must substantially advance the current state-of-the-art on a theoretical and/or an empirical level. To name just a few typical fields and domains of inquiry, the *Journal of Media Psychology* considers manuscripts dealing with research on entertainment, computer-mediated communication (including social media), human-computer interaction, e-learning, computer and video games, virtual environments, or advertising. The journal is also open to research from neighboring disciplines as far as this work ties in with psychological concepts of the uses and effects of the media. Submissions of comparative work, e.g., cross-media, cross-gender, or cross-cultural, are encouraged. Moreover, submissions including alternative analysis procedures such as the Bayesian approach are welcome. Starting in 2015, the pre-registration of research plans will also be possible. To ensure short turn-around cycles for manuscript review and fast publication, the *Journal of Media Psychology* relies heavily upon electronic communication and information exchange, starting from electronic submission and continuing throughout the entire review and production process.

As *JMP* is intended to foster Open Science Practices, authors are offered to publish their data and materials (i.e., stimuli and surveys) as Electronic Supplementary Material on the publisher's website at <http://econtent@hogrefe.com>. In line with the Peer Reviewers' Openness Initiative, authors may be asked by reviewers to share their data and materials at any stage of the reviewing process.

***Journal of Media Psychology* publishes the following types of articles**

Original Research Papers, regardless of methodology, may contain up to 8,000 words, including abstract, text, references, notes, appendices, as well as figures and tables. An allowance for any tables and figures should be deducted from the above depending on their size (approximately 200 words per quarter print page).

Theoretical Articles provide state-of-the-art overviews of research in pertinent areas, or presentations of innovative theories and models for media psychology; they may also focus on methodological issues relevant for the discipline. The specifications are the same as for original research papers.

Research Reports will typically focus on methods, such as the development of a new questionnaire, or they may feature smaller empirical studies. Research reports may contain up to 4,000 words, again including abstract, text, references, notes, appendices, and an allowance for any tables and figures depending on their size (approximately 200 words per quarter print page).

Pre-Registered Reports: As an alternative to the other submission categories, authors have the opportunity to “register” a research idea before data are collected. For this purpose, authors are called to submit a proposal for a scientific question (with a maximum of 4,000 words; including abstract, text, references, notes, appendices, as well as figures and tables), elaborating on the theoretical background, hypotheses, a detailed methodological and a complete analysis plan (including exclusion criteria, e.g., procedures for defining outliers). In the methodological section, authors are allowed to report results from pre-tests that were already conducted.

In a first round of review, the proposal will be judged by its theoretical contribution, plausibility of hypotheses, and soundness of the methodological and analysis plan. If it is evaluated positively in this round, the study receives an “in principle” acceptance (potentially with recommendations by editor and reviewers). Subsequently, within 6 months, authors are asked to conduct the pre-registered study. Data files should be appropriately time stamped to show that data was collected after the in-principle acceptance and not before. Any deviation from the stated methodological procedures, regardless of how minor it may seem to the authors, may lead to summary rejection of the manuscript (in cases of unforeseen circumstances authors may consult the corresponding editor for advice).

After completion of the study, authors submit the second part of their work (containing an additional maximum of 4,000 words) presenting and discussing their results. After this step, the manuscript (with a total of 8,000 words including abstract, text, references, notes, appendices, and an allowance for any tables and figures depending on their size) will be published regardless of whether the initial hypotheses are supported by the data or not. However, the second part will also undergo a review round in order to evaluate whether the results and discussion sections meet the standards of the journal.

Please consider that also this second review round may result in a major revision of the empirical part of the paper. For this category of submission, please consider that the hypotheses and methods that were proposed initially have to be reported in the final article. Statistical post-hoc analyses that go beyond the first plan are possible, but should be explained in a detailed letter to the editor and reviewers when submitting the second part of the manuscript.

Manuscript Submission

All manuscripts should be submitted online at <http://www.editorialmanager.com/jmp>. Please follow the online instructions for submission. Should you have any technical queries regarding this process, please contact Juliane Munson, Hogrefe Publishing (E-mail production@hogrefe.com, Tel. +49 551 99950-422, Fax +49 551 99950-425). Please direct any editorial questions to the editorial office, E-mail jmp-editorial@uni-due.de.

Review Process

All manuscripts are subject to anonymous peer review. An editorial decision on research papers will be made within 8 weeks. Based on the title and abstract, two or more reviewers will be requested to review the manuscript. Reviewers will be asked to complete their review within 4 weeks. The editor responsible for the manuscript makes his or her editorial decision and notifies the corresponding author of the result, usually within 2 working days after receiving the reviewers' feedback. For original research papers, theoretical articles, and research reports, there are three kinds of decisions: accept, revise and resubmit (with either major or minor revisions), and reject. Rejected manuscripts can be resubmitted after substantial revision, but they will be treated as new manuscripts. The entire review process is completely reliant on electronic communication in order to ensure speedy processing.

Manuscript Preparation

Manuscripts should be prepared in accordance with conventions listed in the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.).

The first page should contain the title of the article, names of authors and affiliation(s), a running title, and an address for correspondence, including telephone and fax numbers and e-mail address. The second page should contain an abstract (not exceeding 300 words) which should be intelligible without recourse to the main text, and up to five keywords.

The rest of the manuscript should then follow in the order:

Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, References, Tables, Figures, and Legends.

Tables should be numbered using Arabic numerals and be given a brief descriptive title. Tables must be cited in the text (e.g., "As shown in Table 1, ..."). It is recommended that each table should also include a brief explanatory legend.

Figures should be numbered using Arabic numerals and be given a brief descriptive title and an explanatory legend, if required. Figures must be cited in the text. Care should be taken to ensure that lettering and detail will be legible after any size reduction necessary for publication. Figures must be supplied in a form suitable for reproduction: preferably high-resolution bitmaps (e.g., jpg, 300 dpi). If these are not submitted together with the manuscript, they need to be supplied upon its acceptance.

References: Authors are responsible for checking the accuracy of all references. Reference citations in the text and in the reference list proper should conform to the APA Manual. All references listed have to be cited in the text.

Manuscript Format and Style

Manuscripts should be prepared according to the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). In particular, statistical and mathematical copy, reference citations in the text and the reference list proper should conform to the *Publication Manual*.

Each submission must include the following:

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