Types of academic publications

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Research capability seminars and workshops

Organized by the University Research Council for school year 2017–2018

- 1. Writing support group 1: How do I write my research proposal?
- 2. Writing support group 2: How do I turn my conference/coursework paper into a journal article?
- 3. Hooking your audience through the abstract
- 4. Tips for successful conference presentations
- 5. Habits of prolific academic writers
- 6. Types of academic publications
- 7. Selecting high impact journals
- 8. Understanding the peer review process
- 9. The science and art of editing
- 10. So, you want to write a textbook?
- 11. Knowing the ethics of publication
- 12. Cracking the code of international publication
- 13. Creating a research profile



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Publication

("Publication", 2017)

"To publish is to make content available to the general public."

"An author of a work generally is the initial owner of the copyright on the work. One of the copyrights granted to the author of a work is the exclusive right to publish the work."

"A work that has not undergone publication, and thus is not generally available to the public, or for citation in scholarly or legal contexts, is called an **unpublished work**."

When referring to academic documents, the term "original" usually means "previously unpublished."

"Publication" is the distribution of copies or phonorecords of a work to the public by sale or other transfer of ownership, or by rental, lease, or lending. The offering to distribute copies or phonorecords to a group of people for purposes of further distribution, public performance, or public display, constitutes publication. A public performance or display of a work does not of itself constitute publication.

("United States Code/Title 17/Chapter 1/Section 101", 2014)

To perform or display a work "publicly" means—

- (1) to perform or display it at a place open to the public or at any place where a substantial number of people outside of a normal circle of a family and its social acquaintances is gathered; or
- (2) to transmit or otherwise communicate a performance or display of the work to a place specified by clause (1) or to the public, by means of any device or process, whether the members of the public capable of receiving the performance or display receive it in the same place or in separate places and at the same time or at different times.

("United States Code/Title 17/Chapter 1/Section 101", 2014)

A work of art that exists in only one copy, such as a painting or a statue, is not regarded as published when the single existing copy is sold or offered for sale in the traditional way, such as through an art dealer, gallery, or auction house. A statue erected in a public place is not necessarily published.

When the work is reproduced in multiple copies, such as in reproductions of a painting or castings of a statue, the work is published when the reproductions are publicly distributed or offered to a group for further distribution or public display.

(Copyright Registration for Pictorial, Graphic, and Sculptural Works, 2015)

Publish or perish

Merriam-Webster's (*Publish*, n.d.) second definition of PUBLISH as an intransitive verb is "to have one's work accepted for publication."

"There is a lot of pressure for professors to publish regularly."

""Publish or perish" is a phrase coined to describe pressure in academia to rapidly and continually publish academic work to sustain or further one's career." ("Publish or perish", 2017)



Academic document types

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Academic publishing

("Academic publishing", 2017)

Academic publishing is the subfield of publishing which distributes academic research and scholarship. Most academic work is published in academic journal article, book or thesis form. The part of academic written output that is not formally published but merely printed up or posted on the Internet is often called "grey literature." Most scientific and scholarly journals, and many academic and scholarly books, though not all, are based on some form of peer review or editorial refereeing to qualify texts for publication. [...]

Article or paper in a journal

"In academic publishing, a paper is an academic work that is usually published in an academic journal. It contains original research results or reviews existing results. Such a paper, also called an article, will only be considered valid if it undergoes a process of peer review by one or more *referees* (who are academics in the same field) who check that the content of the paper is suitable for publication in the journal." ("Academic publishing", 2017)

Article or paper submissions may be solicited ("where an individual has been invited to submit work either through direct contact or through a general submissions call") or unsolicited ("where an individual submits a work for potential publication without directly being asked to do so"). ("Academic journal", 2017)

Book review

Academic book review:

"Reviews of scholarly books are checks upon the research books published by scholars; unlike articles, book reviews tend to be solicited." ("Academic journal", 2017)

Literary book review:

"A book review is a form of literary criticism in which a book is analyzed based on content, style, and merit." ("Book review", 2017)

Conference proceedings

("Proceedings", 2017)

"In academia and librarianship, **proceedings** or **conference proceedings** are a collection of academic papers published in the context of an academic conference or workshop. They are usually distributed in printed or electronic volumes, either before the conference opens or after it has closed. [...] In many fields, they may be considered grey literature."

Edited volume

("Edited volume", 2017)

"An **edited volume** or **edited collection** is a collection of scholarly or scientific chapters written by different authors. The chapters in an edited volume are original works (not republished works)."

"An edited volume is unlike an anthology, which is a collection of republished short literary works by different authors. It is also not a collected edition which brings together already published works by a single author and is edited by a publisher. It is different from a reader which contains collected texts for learning purposes. Finally, it is different from proceedings which contain articles written by different authors who presented them at a scientific conference."

Essay ("Essay", 2017)

"An **essay** is, generally, a piece of writing that gives the author's own argument—but the definition is vague, overlapping with those of an article, a pamphlet, and a short story. [...] Formal essays are characterized by "serious purpose, dignity, logical organization, length," whereas the informal essay is characterized by "the personal element (self-revelation, individual tastes and experiences, confidential manner), humor, graceful style, rambling structure, unconventionality or novelty of theme," etc."

Explication

("Academic writing", 2017)

An explication is "usually a short factual note explaining some obscure part of a particular work; e.g. its terminology, dialect, allusions or coded references."

Gray literature ("Grey literature", 2017)

Gray literature "are materials and research produced by organizations outside of the traditional commercial or academic publishing and distribution channels."

Examples are "reports (annual, research, technical, project, etc.), working papers, government documents, white papers and evaluations. Organizations that produce grey literature include government departments and agencies, civil society or non-governmental organisations, academic centres and departments, and private companies and consultants."

Monograph

("Monograph", 2017)

"A **monograph** is a specialist work of writing (in contrast to reference works) on a single subject or an aspect of a subject, usually by a single author."

Preprint

("Manuscript (publishing)", 2017)

"In academic publishing, a **preprint** is a version of a scholarly or scientific paper that precedes publication in a peer-reviewed scholarly or scientific journal. The preprint may be available, often as a non-typeset version available free, before and/or after a paper is published in a journal."

Review article or survey article ("Review article", 2017)

"A **review article** is an article that summarizes the current state of understanding on a topic. A review article surveys and summarizes previously published studies, rather than reporting new facts or analysis."

"Review articles teach about: the main people working in a field, recent major advances and discoveries, significant gaps in the research, current debates, ideas of where research might go next."

Technical report

("Technical report", 2017)

"A **technical report** (also **scientific report**) is a document that describes the process, progress, or results of technical or scientific research or the state of a technical or scientific problem. It might also include recommendations and conclusions of the research. Unlike other scientific literature, [...] technical reports rarely undergo comprehensive independent peer review before publication. They may be considered as grey literature. Where there is a review process, it is often limited to within the originating organization."

Technical report (continuation) ("Technical report", 2017)

"Technical reports are often prepared for sponsors of research projects. Another case where a technical report may be produced is when more information is produced for an academic paper than is acceptable or feasible to publish in a peer-reviewed publication [...]. Researchers may also publish work in early form as a technical report to establish novelty, without having to wait for the often long production schedules of academic journals. Technical reports are considered "non-archival" publications, and so are free to be published elsewhere in peer-reviewed venues with or without modification."

Thesis or dissertation

("Thesis", 2017)

"A **thesis** or **dissertation** is a document submitted in support of candidature for an academic degree or professional qualification presenting the author's research and findings. In some contexts, the word "thesis" or a cognate is used for part of a bachelor's or master's course, while "dissertation" is normally applied to a doctorate, while in other contexts, the reverse is true."

Translation

("Translation", 2017)

"**Translation** is the communication of the meaning of a source-language text by means of an equivalent target-language text."

White paper ("White paper", 2017)

"A **white paper** is an authoritative report or guide that informs readers concisely about a complex issue and presents the issuing body's philosophy on the matter. It is meant to help readers understand an issue, solve a problem, or make a decision."

"The initial British term concerning a type of government-issued document has proliferated, taking a somewhat new meaning in business. In business, a white paper is closer to a form of marketing presentation, a tool meant to persuade customers and partners and promote a product or viewpoint. White papers may be considered grey literature."

Working paper ("Working paper", 2016)

A working paper in academia is a "preliminary scientific or technical paper. Often, authors will release working papers to share ideas about a topic or to elicit feedback before submitting to a peer reviewed conference or academic journal. Working papers are often the basis for related works, and may in themselves be cited by peer-review papers. They may be considered as grey literature."

An example of journal-specific article types (Instructions for Authors, n.d.)

Papers published in Proceedings of the IEEE provide a survey, review, or tutorial treatment of important technical developments in electronics, electrical and computer engineering, and computer science.

Reviews critically examine a technology, tracing its progress from its inception to the present—and perhaps into the future.

Surveys comprehensively view a technology—its applications, issues, ramifications, and potential.

Tutorial papers explain a technology and may give practical information for implementing it. These papers are written for the purpose of informing non-specialist engineers about a particular technology.



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Academic publishing is undergoing major changes, as it makes the transition from the print to the electronic format. [...] Currently, an important trend, particularly with respect to journals in the sciences, is open access via the Internet. In open access publishing, a journal article is made available free for all on the web by the publisher at the time of publication. It is typically made possible after the author pays hundreds or thousands of dollars in publication fees, thereby shifting the costs from the reader to the researcher or their funder. The Internet has facilitated open access self-archiving, in which authors themselves make a copy of their published articles available free for all on the web. ("Academic publishing", 2017)

Open access

Unrestricted online access to peer-reviewed scholarly research

It comes in two degrees ("Gratis versus libre", 2017):

- gratis: Users are able to access and use the article texts, without a price-barrier.
- libre: Users are allowed allowed to modify and re-use the article texts, without a permission barrier.

It can be provided in two ways ("Open access", 2017):

- gold: Authors publish in open access journals, which provide immediate open access to all of their articles, usually on the publisher's website.
- green: Authors publish in any journal and then self-archive a version of the article for gratis public use in an open access website.

According to the Budapest Open Access Initiative

(as cited in "Open access", 2017):

There are many degrees and kinds of wider and easier access to this literature. By 'open access' to this literature, we mean its free availability on the public internet, permitting any users to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of these articles, crawl them for indexing, pass them as data to software, or use them for any other lawful purpose, without financial, legal, or technical barriers other than those inseparable from gaining access to the internet itself. The only constraint on reproduction and distribution, and the only role for copyright in this domain, should be to give authors control over the integrity of their work and the right to be properly acknowledged and cited.



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Creative Commons Licences

("Creative Commons license", 2017)

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Creative Commons licenses or their equivalent are required for a journal to be included in the Directory of Open Access Journals. (*Information for Publishers*, n.d.)

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