Journal Mission, Scope, & Topics

The *Journal of General Education: A Curricular Commons of the Humanities and Sciences* (*JGE*) is devoted to the ideas and ideals of scholarship that enlighten the understanding of the general education curriculum. General education reaches across disciplinary and professional concentrations to provide an undergraduate educational commons. The Journal engages academic communities and the broader public about general education experiments and innovation, including but not limited to the assessment, history, philosophy, and theoretical commitments of general education.

In short, *JGE* is focused *not* on a scholarship of “general interest” to those engaged in undergraduate education. Rather, *JGE* is a scholarly community interested *in general education as a distinctive curricular cornerstone* of the arts of liberty that prepare citizens to live engaged, responsible, and meaningful lives. We encourage desk inquiries before submission.

*JGE* is particularly interested in thoughtful reflections and reports from those who are currently undertaking general education reform. In addition, *JGE* welcomes proposals for special issues of the Journal. Please contact the Editorial Office at [JGE@press.psu.edu](mailto:JGE@press.psu.edu).

We invite you to participate in our journal community online through our Twitter account: [@JGenEdu](https://twitter.com/JGenEdu).

Submission Information & Peer Review Standards

All manuscripts must be submitted through our online system. Please visit this site to create an author account, view submission guidelines, and submit: [http://www.editorialmanager.com/jge/](http://www.editorialmanager.com/jge/)

Notes for Reviewers

Thank you for reviewing a submission for our journal community! Our peer review philosophy is that the process should manifest the arts of liberty that we champion as educators, including humility, generosity, critical discernment, collegiality, and helpfulness. Your review comments should manifest these arts.

Articles are selected for the original ideas, cogent arguments, creative approaches, and scholarly discussions they contribute to the general education endeavor. Each manuscript is assessed by the editors and reviewers for its contribution to the scholarship, practice, and design of general education according to the following criteria, which differ by article type.

Article Types and Length Requirements

In each case listed below, “relevant literature” refers to thoughtful, well-argued sources that illuminate the topic. Peer-reviewed literature is preferred but, in some cases, this may be insufficient. In these cases, “gray” literature should be used (e.g., blog posts, conference presentations, reports, etc).
**Journal of General Education**  
A Curricular Commons of the Humanities and Sciences

**Author & Reviewer Guidelines**

- **Critical Reflections**: Essays, literature reviews, position papers, and critical self-reflections about ongoing general education reform should (a) reference relevant literature, (b) contribute a perspective new to or undervalued in the literature, and (c) connect to contemporary and emerging efforts in general education reform. (1,000–5,000 words)

- **Innovative Practices**: Synopses of innovative programs and practices should (a) reference relevant literature, (b) describe a program or practice new to or undervalued in the literature, and (c) connect to contemporary and emerging programs and practices in general education. (1,000–3,000 words)

- **Research or Evaluation**: Research or evaluation articles on general education should (a) reference relevant literature, (b) contribute new findings or replicate previously-reported findings using a systematic and transparent research design, and (c) address contemporary and emerging issues facing general education. (up to 7,000 words; mixed methods studies up to 10,000 words)

- **Book Reviews**: Book reviews should (a) review a recently published (within the last two years) book or monograph that focuses directly on general education or related topics in higher education, (b) contain a brief synopsis of the book including a clear description of the theoretical, empirical, or policy issue of concern, (c) reference relevant literature to delineate how the book takes a particular or unique approach to the topic, and (d) explain how the information presented is helpful to different audiences (i.e. faculty, practitioners, and administrators). *JGE* accepts solicited and unsolicited book reviews. (1,000–3,000 words)

*JGE* welcomes alternative manuscript formats such as poems, dialogues, and ethnodramas, so long as the abstract justifies how the format supports the content. Such alternative formats have flexible word count requirements, and these will be assessed during peer review.

**Style**

Authors must follow the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (APA) in preparing of citations, references, and content for their manuscripts. Special notes:

- Manuscripts must be submitted in Word format (.docx).

- Omit the title page, abstract, and table of contents from the manuscript text.

- Section headings within the manuscript text must be formatted using Word’s native heading styles for Headings 1, 2, and 3 only. The exact look of headings doesn’t matter as we will format to the journal’s style during production.

- An abstract of no more than 200 words is required for all submissions. It is uploaded separately from the manuscript text.

Updated August 2019
Author & Reviewer Guidelines

- Authors will upload two copies of the manuscript. One copy should be anonymized to ensure anonymity during the double-blind peer review process. That is, authors’ names and affiliations should not appear in the manuscript, title, keywords, or abstract. Please insert “[removed for the purposes of blind review]” for any such text. The other copy should be complete as for final publication.

Tables, Figures, and Appendices

- Tables must be formatted in Word using Word’s native table functions and inserted into the manuscript text approximately where they should appear in print. The exact look of tables doesn’t matter as we will format to the journal’s style during production.

- Figures and appendices must be submitted as separate files from the manuscript text. For figures, leave a flag in the text indicating approximately where the figure should go, e.g., <Insert Figure 1 About Here>.

  - Figures must be uploaded in one of the following file formats: .tiff, .jpeg, .eps, .png
  
  - Figure resolution must be 300 dpi or higher.
  
  - Figures will be printed in color online but in black & white in hardcopy. Authors may pay $300 per color page to print hardcopies in color.

  - Each table and figure must have a caption. Captions must be clearly labeled as such and be included in the manuscript text approximately where they should appear in print.

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