

Short Communications: Introduction

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Short Communications

This section of the journal was designed primarily, though not exclusively, for the science disciplines. It consists of preliminary data, initial findings, and other brief investigations into a field of inquiry. As an interdisciplinary journal, we wanted to be mindful of the ways in which science and empirically-based social science writing can differ from humanities and qualitative social science writing. Because publications in the sciences are often multi-authored, in which case student researchers might not be the first authors, we wanted to create a space where our science students' research could still be showcased. Science journals in many disciplines have a section like ours (called variously "short communications," "conversations," or "letters") where authors can publish independent work, or roll out individual findings within larger research projects as they emerge. We have developed Short Communications on this model to serve our students in the various science and social science disciplines.