

Instructions for Authors

1. Manuscript Submission

The *International Journal of Science and Mathematics Education* (IJSME) has a fully web-enabled review system with straightforward log-in and submission procedures. Springer's Editorial Manager (EM) offers authors the option of tracking in real time the review process of their manuscript. The following file formats are automatically converted into a single PDF for use in the peer-review process: Word, RTF, TXT, LaTeX2e, AMSTeX, TIFF, GIF, JPEG, EPS, Postscript, PICT, PDF, Excel, and PowerPoint. EM supports the upload of multiple files in a single ZIP file.

Manuscripts can only be submitted online at <http://ijma.edmgr.com/>. If you encounter any difficulties while submitting your manuscript online, please get in touch with the Editorial Assistant by clicking on "CONTACTS" from the toolbar.

A pdf version of the Instructions for Authors can also be downloaded from <http://static.springer.com/sgw/documents/883337/application/pdf/IJSME+instructions+for+authors+1024.pdf>

1.1. Reviewing Procedure

IJSME follows a double-blind reviewing procedure. Authors must omit their name and affiliation from the manuscript. Self-identifying citations and references in the article text should also be avoided or left blank when manuscripts are first submitted. Authors are responsible for reinserting their name, affiliation, and self-identifying citations and references when manuscripts are prepared for final submission. This review process normally takes about 12-16 weeks.

1.2. Assistance to Authors

Author teams whose first language is not English are strongly encouraged to choose to have their manuscripts professionally edited before submission to improve the quality and clarity of English. All such services are arranged and paid for by the author. The use of these editing services does not guarantee acceptance for publication.

Springer also provides Author Services (<https://authorservices.springernature.com/>) and Information for journal article authors (<https://www.springer.com/us/authors-editors/journal-author>) to help authors write, submit, and publish their manuscript.

In addition, in order to have a better understanding of IJSME submission, authors are encouraged to read in advance the article, "*The International Journal of Science and Mathematics Education: A Beginner's Guide to Writing for Publication*," written by our Senior Editor Prof. Peter Liljedahl. This Open Access paper can be downloaded via the DOI number: https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-15636-7_20.

2. Manuscript Presentation

2.1. Style & Layout

IJSME requires all submitted manuscripts to follow the 7th edition of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (APA; <http://www.apastyle.org/index.aspx>), except the line spacing in references, tables, figures, and appendices (see below) and the position of tables and figures (see 2.3.7 and 2.3.8 for more details). Manuscripts received that do not follow this style will be promptly returned to the authors for correction before being considered and submitted for peer review.

A complete manuscript includes main text (should be double-spaced), references (could be single-spaced), tables and figures (could be single-spaced), and appendices (could be single-spaced). IJSME also strictly complies with word count policy where each new manuscript, excluding references, cannot exceed 7,500 words, while revised manuscripts are exempt from the limit. All text should be set to 12-point Times New Roman or equivalent serif typeface on ISO standard A4 or North American standard 8.5 x 11 inch (letter size) paper, leaving 2.54 cm/1 inch margins on all sides. Numbering of all pages in the submitted manuscript is to be consecutive starting with the first page of text (not the cover page). Text paragraphs should be aligned left (i.e., not justified). Please see Electronic Supplemental Materials (ESM) for associated but not absolutely essential materials to meet the word count limit for IJSME manuscripts.

2.2. Contact Details

This page is to contain:

- running head (shortened title)
- title
- author(s)
- affiliation(s)
- full address for correspondence, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail address
- acknowledgement(s) of people, grants, funding, etc.; this information will be moved to a separate section before the References section when the manuscript is published.
- disclosure statements, declarations of originality, conflict of interest, financial or non-financial interests, study-specific approval by the appropriate ethics committee for research involving humans, informed consent, etc., if the research involves human participants.
- declaration must be made in the competing-interests section if an IJSME Editor or an Editorial Board Member is on the author list.

The cover page will be uploaded separately from the main manuscript text.

2.3. Main Manuscript Text

2.3.1. Blinded – The author's (authors') name(s) and affiliation should be removed from all pages of the submitted manuscript and any associated files under review. When citing their own work, authors are to use the word "Authors" in the text to maintain anonymity. In References, please also use the word "Authors" and reveal only the information of publication year and source. For example,

Authors (2009). *International Journal of Science and Mathematics Education*.

2.3.2. Title – The title of the article is repeated.

2.3.3. Abstract – A short abstract of 100 to 250 words, which should not contain any undefined abbreviations or unspecified references, is to be presented on the first page of the main manuscript. Be sure to include the purpose of the study, methods, major results, and conclusion.

2.3.4. Keywords – List 3 to 5 keywords or short phrases in alphabetical order that help define the research and support electronic searches.

2.3.5. Page number – Place consecutive page numbers at the upper right-hand corner of the page, at least 1 inch from the right edge of the page, between the top of the page and the first line of text.

2.3.6. Section headings – First-, second-, third-, and fourth-order headings should be clearly distinguishable. APA five-level heading structure should be used (https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/apa_changes_7th_edition.html).

7 th Edition APA Style Headings	
Level	Format
1	Centered, Boldface, Title Case Heading Text starts a new paragraph.
2	Flush left, Boldface, Title Case Heading Text starts a new paragraph.
3	<i>Flush Left, Boldface Italic, Title Case Heading</i> Text starts a new paragraph.
4	Indented, Boldface Title Case Heading Ending With a Period. Paragraph text continues on the same line as the same paragraph.
5	<i>Indented, Boldface Italic, Title Case Heading Ending With a Period.</i> Paragraph text continues on the same line as the same paragraph.

2.3.7. Figures – All graphs, charts, maps, drawings, and photographs should be incorporated *into the body of text in appropriate locations* rather than added at the end of the manuscript or in attachments. They should comply with APA guidelines, be numbered consecutively (1, 2, 3, etc.) and contain a detailed legend (without abbreviations). Figure numbers should be in bold font, and titles one double-spaced line below in italics. Both figure numbers and titles are supposed to be flushed to the left and placed above figure images. Multi-part figures are to be labeled with lowercase letters (a, b, etc.).

2.3.8. Tables – All tables should be incorporated *into the body of the text in appropriate locations* rather than added at the end of the manuscript or in attachments. They should comply with APA guidelines, be numbered consecutively (1, 2, 3, etc.), and have a title (without abbreviations). Table numbers should be in bold font, and titles one double-spaced line below in italics. Both table numbers and figures are supposed to be flushed to the left and placed above tables. Horizontal lines can be used to separate information and make it clearer. Do not use vertical lines in an APA format table.

Footnotes are preferable to long explanatory material in either the headings or body of the table. Such explanatory footnotes, identified by superscript letters, should be placed immediately below the table. An example is as follows.

Table 1

Statistics for the Pretest and Posttest

n	Pretest				t	Posttest		ES
	M	SD	M	SD		p		
Factual knowledge	65	4.77	4.48	8.69	6.14	16.48	< 0.01	2.05
Conceptual knowledge	65	2.24	1.65	4.91	3.34	6.68	< 0.01	1.02
Spatial knowledge	65	4.05	2.69	9.85	3.42	15.00	< 0.01	1.88

Note. ES = effect size

2.3.9. Notes – Use endnotes rather than footnotes. Notes should be indicated by consecutive superscript numbers in the text and listed at the end of the article before the References. A source reference note should be indicated by means of an asterisk after the title. This note should be placed at the bottom of the first page.

2.3.10. Citations – The in-text citation for works with three or more authors should be shortened right from the first citation with the first author’s name and “et al.”

2.3.11. Quotations – All quotations of more than 40 words should be set off clearly, either by indenting the left margin or by using a smaller typeface. Use double quotation marks for direct quotations and single quotation marks for quotations within quotations.

2.3.12. References – In writing your paper, please use references to indicate you are a reader or member of IJSME and show that you are highly aware of what this publication is about. Meanwhile, at this level, please take this opportunity to show us that you are not just publishing articles in IJSME but also reading this journal.

Furthermore, all text citations and reference listings should comply with 7th APA edition style (see examples below). Personal communications should not be included in the reference list but should only be mentioned in the article text, for example, K.W. Schaie (personal communication, April 18, 2003).

Examples: Book

Creswell, J. W., & Plano Clark, V. L. (2007). *Designing and conducting mixed methods research*. SAGE.

Edited Book

Goh, S. C., & Khine, M. S. (Eds.). (2000). *Studies in education learning environments: An international perspective*. World Scientific.

Chapter in Edited Book

McGinnis, J. R. (2000). Walking the tightrope between the world of academia and the world of work. In T. Koballa & D. J. Tippins (Eds.), *The promises and dilemmas of teaching middle and secondary science: A classroom case handbook* (pp. 244-248). Merrill/Prentice-Hall.

Article in Conference Proceedings

Fisher, D. L., Rickards, T., Goh, C. S., & Wong, A. (1997). Perceptions of interpersonal teaching behavior in secondary science classrooms: Comparisons between Australia and Singapore. In D. L. Fisher & T. Rickards (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 1997 International Conference on Science, Mathematics and Technology Education and National Development*. Hanoi, Vietnam (pp. 136-143). Curtin University of Technology.

Journal Article

Yang, K.-L., & Li, J.-L. (2018). A framework for assessing reading comprehension of geometric construction texts. *International Journal of Science and Mathematics Education*, 16(1), 109-124. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10763-016-9770-6>

Technical Report

Denton, J. J., & Metcalf, T. (1993). *Two school-university collaborations: Characteristics and findings from classroom observations* (Report No. EA 025227). Atlanta, GA.

Doctoral Dissertation

Donnelley Smith, A. R. (2018). *Self-efficacy of early childhood teachers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics* (Publication No. 13420105) [Doctoral dissertation, Brandman University]. ProQuest Dissertations Publishing.

Kamalski, J. (2007). *Coherence marking, comprehension and persuasion: On the processing and representation of discourse* [Unpublished doctoral dissertation]. Utrecht University.

2.3.13. Appendices – All appendices should comply with APA guidelines and be included in the manuscript submission. These appendices will be fully reviewed and, subject to space limitations, may be published online in Springer's Electronic Supplementary Materials (ESM) system. If published in the ESM, they will not appear in the journal's print version.

3. Electronic Supplemental Materials (ESM)

In an attempt to provide flexibility for related textual and visual materials, Springer maintains an electronic repository for materials, e.g., colored images, video clips, etc., which should be used by the author to increase the reader's comprehension of the main text. The meaning of the main text should be complete in and of itself and should not rely on the content of the supplemental material(s). Electronic supplementary materials are intended to support the manuscript with additional background and detail that are not critical to the main text of the manuscript. They are not intended as "overflow" space for the main text. Tables, figures, and materials of primary importance to the conclusions of the manuscript are not appropriate as electronic supplemental materials and must be placed in the main text of the manuscript.

Springer's ESM system allows the control of pages printed in the journal's paper edition. Upon acceptance of an article, authors may need to move nonessential parts of the article to ESM at the request of editors. In such case, a note will be shown in the printed article where appropriate to indicate referral to ESM.

4. Proofs

Proofs will be sent to the corresponding author and should be returned within three days of receipt.

5. Offprints

The electronic offprint (PDF format) of each article will be provided free of charge.

6. Page Charges and Color Art

No page charges are levied on authors or their institutions except for color pages in the print version. If black and white will be shown in the print version, ensure that the main information will still be visible. Many colors and patterns are not distinguishable from one another when converted to black and white.

7. Copyright

Once the article is accepted and sent for typesetting, an automatic email message will be sent requesting, amongst others, to sign a copyright transfer form.

8. Permission

It is the responsibility of the author to obtain written permission for a quotation from unpublished material, for all quotations in excess of 250 words in one extract or 500 words in total from any work still in copyright, and for the reprinting of figures, tables, or poems from unpublished or copyrighted material.

9. Springer Open Choice

In addition to the normal publication process (whereby an article is submitted to a journal and access to that article is granted to customers who have purchased a subscription), Springer provides an alternative publishing option: Springer Open Choice. An Open Choice article receives all the benefits of a regular subscription-based article. In addition, it is made available publicly through Springer's online platform SpringerLink. Complete information is available at <http://www.springer.com/gp/open-access/springer-open-choice>.

10. Research Data Policy

The journal encourages authors, where possible and applicable, to deposit data that support the findings of their research in a public repository. Authors and editors who do not have a preferred repository should consult Springer Nature's list of repositories and research data policy.

- [List of Repositories](#)
- [Research Data Policy](#)

General repositories - for all types of research data - such as figshare and Dryad may also be used. Datasets that are assigned digital object identifiers (DOIs) by a data repository may be cited in the reference list. Data citations should include the minimum information recommended by DataCite: authors, title, publisher (repository name), and identifier.

- [DataCite](#)

Springer Nature provides a research data policy support service for authors and editors, which can be contacted at researchdata@springernature.com.

This service provides advice on research data policy compliance and on finding research data repositories. It is independent of journal, book and conference proceedings editorial offices and does not advise on specific manuscripts.

- [Helpdesk](#)

11. Additional Information

Additional information can be obtained from:

Prof. Kai-Lin Yang
Senior Editor, IJSME
Department of Mathematics
National Taiwan Normal University
Phone: +886 2 7749-6634
E-mail: kailin@ntnu.edu.tw

Mr. Lawrence Liu Springer
#22-06/08 Gateway East 152 Beach
Road
Singapore 189721
Phone: + 65 6396 6386 Fax: + 65 6298 8043
E-mail: Lawrence.Liu@springer.com
Internet: <http://www.springer.com/>

Springer

<http://www.springer.com/journal/10763>

International Journal of Science and Mathematics Education Editor-in-

Chief: Hsin-Kai Wu

ISSN: 1571-0068 (print version)

ISSN: 1573-1774 (electronic version)

journal no. 10763