

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.

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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 Academy and interactive courses (<http://www.springer.com/gp/authors-editors/author-academy>) to help authors write, submit, and publish their manuscript.

2. Manuscript Presentation

2.1. Style & Layout

IJSME requires all submitted manuscripts to follow the sixth 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 2.3.6 and 2.3.7 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.

Manuscripts should not exceed 30 pages. The 30 pages include primary manuscript text (should be double-spaced), references (could be single-spaced), tables and figures (could be single-spaced), and appendices (could be single-spaced). 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 page limitation 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.

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.

2.3.4. Keywords – List 4 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 in. 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 (<http://blog.apastyle.org/apastyle/2009/07/five-essential-tips-for-apa-style-headings.html>).

APA Style Headings: 6th Edition

Level	Format
1	Centered, Boldface, Uppercase and Lowercase Heading Then your paragraph begins below, indented like a regular paragraph.
2	Flush Left, Boldface, Uppercase, and Lowercase Heading Then your paragraph begins below, indented like a regular paragraph.
3	Indented, boldface, lowercase paragraph heading ending with a period. Your paragraph begins right here, in line with the heading. ^a
4	Indented, boldface, italicized, lowercase paragraph heading ending with a period. Your paragraph begins right here, in line with the heading.
5	Indented, italicized, lowercase paragraph heading ending with a period. Your paragraph begins right here, in line with the heading.

^aFor headings at Levels 3–5, the first letter of the first word in the heading is uppercase, and the remaining words are lowercase (except for proper nouns and the first word to follow a colon).

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. They should comply with APA guidelines, be numbered consecutively (1, 2, etc.), have a caption, and contain a detailed legend (without abbreviations). 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. They should comply with APA guidelines, be numbered consecutively, and have a title (without abbreviations). 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		Posttest		<i>t</i>	<i>p</i>	ES
		<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>			
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. 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.

2.3.11. References – All text citations and reference listings should comply with APA 6th 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*. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE.

Edited Book

Goh, S. C., & Khine, M. S. (Eds.). (2000). *Studies in education learning environments: An international perspective*. Singapore: 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). Upper Saddle Ridge, NJ: 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). Perth, Australia: Curtin University of Technology.

Journal Article

Yore, L. D., Pimm, D., & Tuan, H.-L. (2007). The literacy component of mathematical and scientific literacy. *International Journal of Science and Mathematics Education*, 5(4), 559-589. doi:10.1007/s10763-007-9089-4

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

Tippett, C. D. (2011). *Exploring middle school students' representational competence in science: Development*

and verification of a framework for learning with visual representations (Doctoral dissertation). Retrieved from <http://hdl.handle.net/1828/3250>

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

2.3.12. 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.

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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), identifier.

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11. Additional Information

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International Journal of Science and Mathematics Education

Editor-in-Chief: Lin, H.-s.

ISSN: 1571-0068 (print version)

ISSN: 1573-1774 (electronic version)

journal no. 10763



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