

Nýsa, The NKU Journal of Student Research

Submission Guidelines

Current students and recent graduates (within six months of graduation) from any discipline are encouraged to submit the following:

Articles.

Articles should be between 2000 and 5000 words. An abstract (150 – 300 words) should be included. Sections laying out an introduction and motivation, including a hypothesis or problem statement, methods, discussion, and references should be included. Figures and tables are welcome. See the Formatting section for more details. The Journal's broad audience requires that submissions be understandable by undergraduates. Technical topics and jargon should be thoroughly explained.

Communications.

These are shorter, typically 1000-1500 words, and are for projects that have a posed question and conclusions but are not comprehensive enough to warrant an article. They follow the same structure as Articles.

Reviews.

Reviews should be no more than 5000 words. An abstract should be included, with the rest of the text following typical formatting for the discipline.

For any other type of submission, email nysa@nku.edu prior to submitting- we are interested in a wide variety of scholarship and are happy to consider things not listed above.

All submissions should include a cover page which lists the authors (in the case of multiple student authors, the contributions of each author should be stated explicitly), their majors, the faculty mentor, the title of the work, and lead author contact information. A contract signed by the authors and mentor is also required at the time of submission.

Formatting Guidelines

Word (.doc or .docx) should be used, with standard formatting for the discipline (MLA, Chicago, American Anthropology Association, American Chemical Society, etc.). Names and other identifying features should only appear on the cover page so as to permit double blind review. If accepted for publication, the original files of figures (preferably in a high resolution format like .eps or .tiff) will be required. Word documents with figures pasted into them tend to reproduce poorly.

Human and Animal Studies

If a submission involves human studies or animal models, pre-approval of the research by NKU's [Institutional Review Board](#) or [Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee](#) must be acquired **before the start of the research**. Certification should be uploaded along with the submission. NKU's IRB and IACUC will not approve research after the study. This requirement also applies to research carried out as a part of a course which might not otherwise ask for such approval.

Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools like Bard, ChatGPT, etc. cannot be listed as co-authors on submissions. If an AI is used in the drafting of the submission, you must:

- Include that in the methods section along with how it was used.
- Cite it appropriately in your references/citations.
- Upload the full output of the AI along with your submission.

Copyright

Authors retain the copyright of their material and retain the ability to publish it elsewhere. Nýsa reserves the right to reproduce and reprint published material for instructional and promotional purposes. Potential authors should be aware of their mentors' plans, if any, to include their work in other publications, which may have restrictions regarding prior publications.

Article Checklist

As you prepare your article for submission, you may find it helpful to use the following checklist of required research article components:

- Abstract
- Introduction
- Method Section
- Results and Discussion (can be split into two)
- Sources/References

The Abstract should

- Introduce the topic
- Provide a summary of the methodology used
- Provide a summary of the results / main conclusion(s)
- Should be limited to 150-250 words

The Introduction should

- Introduce the topic
- Motivate the research question / discussion
- Cite relevant sources to support claims
- State any research prediction / hypotheses

The Methods Section should

- Describe the sources and procedure / method of data collection
- Describe the participants (if using human participants)
- Describe the materials (if applicable)
- Cite any sources of data used
- Describe how an AI was used in drafting the article (if applicable)

The Results and Discussion section(s) should

- Describe the raw results of the study

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- Include figures / tables describing the data as needed
 - If included, figures / tables have clear captions and all figures / tables should be referred to in the text
 - Any figures used should be available in high resolution formats (e.g. .eps, .tif)
- Describe the results of any analyses conducted on the data (e.g. statistical tests) with sufficient detail to understand them (e.g. statistical tests include p values, error estimates)
- Interpret the results and place them in the context of the greater field as outlined in the Introduction
- Review the primary research question
- Summarize the key outcomes of the study
- Discuss limitations and future directions

The Sources / References Section should

- Include the references cited in the text, tables, and figures of the article, arranged and formatted according to your field's standards (e.g. APA, MLA, American Society of Microbiology, etc.)
- Include a citation for any AI used in drafting the document