DESCRIPTION

The *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology (JESP)* aims to publish articles that extend or create conceptual advances in social psychology. As the title of the journal indicates, we are focused on publishing primary reports of research in social psychology that use experimental or quasi-experimental methods, although not every study in an article needs to be experimental. We also would like to encourage submissions explaining methodological or statistical considerations that are relevant to the kind of research published here, and that are usable by the typical person who carries out and evaluates social psychology research. Finally, we encourage authors to submit reports of replication studies in experimental social psychology that meet the high standards at JESP (for guidance, see Brandt, IJzerman et al., 2014).

Before submitting your paper please review the guidelines [here](#) and a 2018 update [here](#).

The aim of these guidelines is to share with you some criteria that the journal’s editors employ when evaluating manuscripts. The guidelines cannot address all substantive issues, but we do want to emphasize that, unless its methods, theory and evidence are all exceptionally strong, typically one research study leaves many questions unanswered and this is an important reason why papers that include more than one study are preferred by *JESP* editors.

*JESP* editors start from an attitude that is positive about efforts to advance the field, but rigorous in terms of evaluating evidence supporting a submitted paper’s conclusions. With this attitude in mind the following points may help authors to decide what points to address when preparing their manuscripts for *JESP*.

The guidelines also reflect the editors’ experiences with having to reject papers, or engage authors in lengthy and uncertain revisions, for the reasons mentioned below. Thus, the guidelines aim to spell out some basics in order to let authors know what kind of methods and reporting choices will give them the best chance at a favourable evaluation at *JESP*.

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GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

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The Journal of Experimental Social Psychology is devoted to the publication of theoretically grounded experimental research on social interaction and related phenomena, including attitudes; social cognition, perception, emotions and motivation; interpersonal relationships; and intragroup and intergroup processes. However, this is not an exhaustive list, and the Journal seeks to publish significant work reflecting the entire breadth of the field of experimental social psychology. It is anticipated that most published manuscripts will report results of empirical research that advances social psychological theory. However, other types of papers, such as methodological comments, are also encouraged if they contribute significantly to an understanding of social processes.

The Journal of Experimental Social Psychology considers three types of articles: Full length research article (no length restrictions, but normally consist of 30-40 pages of text, around 10,000 words), Reports (no longer than 5000 words of main article text, excluding abstract, footnotes and references) and Registered Reports (guidance for authors and reviewers here).

Before submitting, please also read the guidelines found here describing some criteria that the journal's editors employ when evaluating manuscripts.

Submission
Our online submission system guides you stepwise through the process of entering your article details and uploading your files. The system converts your article files to a single PDF file used in the peer-review process. Editable files (e.g., Word, LaTeX) are required to typeset your article for final publication. All correspondence, including notification of the Editor's decision and requests for revision, is sent by e-mail.

Most of the journals production requirements can be met by following the most recent Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (APA). Otherwise, detailed information about manuscript preparation requirements can be found below.

Submit your article
Please submit your article via https://www.evise.com/profile/api/navigate/JESP.

Pre-submission information
Please be aware that a number of questions will be asked automatically during the JESP submission process. Preparing your manuscript to meet these questions and having answers ready will help ensure a smooth experience.

The following questions will be answered with check-boxes and text entry in the submission process.

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4. Human and animal rights. Authors are asked to confirm that all empirical research with human participants submitted for consideration has been conducted in a manner consistent with the American Psychological Association's Ethical Principles in the Conduct of Research with Human Participants (2010), and that any experiments involving animals, which are rare but not unprecedented in JESP, were carried out in accordance with appropriate APA guidelines for animal research.

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6. Reporting guidelines. Authors will also have to indicate, in lines with points 1 and 2 of the editorial guidelines, agreement with these two statements, or reasons why agreement is not possible: The text of the article contains a statement asserting that all measures, manipulations, and exclusions in the study are disclosed, as well as the method of determining the final sample size (with particular reference to whether collection was continued after data analysis). Please give the page number of the first of these disclosure statements. The article reports effect sizes, exact p-values, means, standard deviations, and inter-variable correlations relevant to the analyses, either in text or in Supplementary Materials. Sensitivity power analysis. Each original empirical study with existing data should report, for its key hypothesis tests, a sensitivity power analysis (available in the free software GPower; Faul, Buchner, Erdfelder & Lang, 2017). This should assume an alpha significance criterion (normally .05, two-tailed), and a standard power criterion (normally 80%), and report the minimum effect size. Any assumptions in addition to N that are required to calculate power (for example, mean or median correlation among repeated measures) should be reported and justified as part of the analysis. See the policy announcement for details and explanation. Mediation analysis. In line with a recent article in JESP about these concerns (Fiedler, Harris & Schott, available online), we will now require any report of mediation analysis to either explain why the causal model used is preferred to others, or use cautious language, reporting the mediation analysis as compatible with only one of several models possible. See the policy announcement for details and explanation. Also, please read our previous guidelines about the unnecessary use of mediation analysis.

7. Authors must report whether any data in the paper was part of a previous submission to JESP. Please note that JESP will not consider resubmissions of previously considered research unless substantive new evidence is added in a way that directly addresses the concerns of the previous editor. We strongly advise that authors make their case for how the new evidence improves the paper in the cover letter, referring to specific points in the previous editor's decision.

Statcheck
Journal of Experimental Social Psychology has started a pilot to encourage authors to use the program statcheck on manuscripts submitted to the journal, in order to improve the accuracy of their statistical reporting in text.

For all manuscripts that are deemed to fit within the Aims and Scope of the journal, the editorial team will be using statcheck as part of their initial triage of manuscripts. For any manuscripts found to have important discrepancies in reporting, we will ask authors to resolve these in the manuscript before they can be sent on for further review. The pilot is intended to help editors and authors to work together to decrease the number of errors in published articles in the journal.

Before submitting, authors are invited to run a HTML or PDF version of their APA-formatted manuscript through statcheck prior to submitting their manuscripts, via this link: http://statcheck.io/. This will be the same portal that the JESP Editorial Team will be using.

Statcheck is a program that checks for errors in statistical reporting in APA-formatted documents. It was originally written in the R programming language. statcheck/web is a web-based implementation of statcheck. Using statcheck/web, you can check any PDF for statistical errors without installing the R programming language on your computer. To use statcheck/web, simply upload a PDF or HTML file of your APA-formatted document. The output will identify any errors in statistical reporting from the manuscript text, based on apparent discrepancies among degrees of freedom, test statistic, and p-value. (For a summary of what statcheck can and cannot do, see the statcheck manual).
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Things that statcheck counts as inconsistent
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E.g., often when a Bonferroni correction is used, the p-value is multiplied by the number of tests performed. This makes the reported result internally inconsistent.

Common sources of inconsistencies
Wrong rounding
When reporting a correlation, reporting the sample size instead of the degrees of freedom
Reporting p < .042 when in fact p = .042
Copy-paste errors: copying a previously reported result as a "template", but forgetting to change one or more of the numbers

Statistics that statcheck cannot read
not reported exactly according to APA style, e.g.: degrees of freedom in subscripts
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