How to Write Papers for Numeracy: The Editors’ Perspective

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Types of Submissions

• Articles
• Notes
• Perspectives
• From the Author
• Book Reviews
Introduction

• Clearly articulate research question
• Explain importance—but don’t overstate
• Briefly identify key take-aways
Literature Review

• What do we already know? (What is old information?)
• What don’t we know (that your paper will fill in)? (What is new information?)
• Be aware of Numeracy literature
• Cite others’ works explicitly
Institutional Context (if relevant)

• What does the reader need to know about where the data were collected in order to evaluate the meaning of your work?

• If you were to do the same thing somewhere else, what contextual differences might predictably lead to different findings? Whatever those things are, a reader needs to hear about.
Methods

• Replication is an important part of advancing knowledge—make that possible through clear and explicit description

• Note IRB approval if relevant
Results

• Consider figures and tables carefully
• Jane Miller’s *Chicago Guide to Writing about Numbers*
• Make key claims clear, but don’t over-claim
• Examine robustness
Conclusion

• Not just a summary
• How does your work alter our understanding?
• What are next questions that need to be answered?
A note on notes

• Short and to the point (~5 or so pages)
• Advance the discussion of Numeracy content
• Healthy, constructive dialog
Topics we invite

• Descriptions of QL/QR initiatives or programs
• Descriptions of QL/QR courses or assignments
• Evidence of effectiveness is critical (even if it is often imperfect)
• Community college and gateway courses
• Numeracy in healthcare consumption
• Numeracy in industry
• Psychology of Numeracy