

# Visible Language

The journal of interface, experience, and communication design research

## Manuscript guidance for authors

### Anonymization for peer review

- Please submit TWO versions of your manuscript, one full version and one with all identifying authors and institutional information omitted/redacted.
- Please check that the author and institutional identifiers for the anonymized version are also omitted from the document/file properties and the manuscript file names.
- Use [ANON] as a placeholder for any identifying author or institutional information that is omitted.
- Please redact any identifying information from images

Please include the following at the start of your manuscript:

#### Category

- Select one: Research article | Visual essay | Dispatches from industry | Book review | Invited article

### Article title

- Please use sentence case

### Author names (full manuscript only)

- Please include author names with a link to each author's ORCID ID (optional)
- Please include the author's/authors' institutional affiliations
- Please include the email address for the corresponding author (using [at] instead of @)

### Abstract

- Word count – between 200 and 300 words
- Should be unstructured—a single paragraph
- Avoid using italics if possible
- Written to avoid citations, as far as possible

### Implications for practice (for research articles)

- The implications for practice is a reflection on the content of the article that can be applied in real-world design contexts, outlining specific recommendations,

practical strategies, or considerations that practitioners can use to improve design processes, decision-making, or outcomes.

- Word count (between 100 and 200 words)

#### Keywords

- Minimum 3, Maximum 6
- List in alphabetical order
- Lowercase (except proper nouns)
- Begin with "Keywords:" (including the colon)
- Separated by semicolons

#### Style notes and examples for your manuscript:

##### Headings

- Please use sentence case for headings
- Numbered headings for Level 1 (1.) and Level 2 (1.1.), unnumbered for Level 3

##### Footnotes/endnotes

- Footnotes are discouraged and should be kept to an absolute minimum.
- Use \* rather than numbering where a footnote is essential.
- Endnotes are not used.

##### In-text citations

- Use APA 7th referencing style (See: [https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\\_and\\_citation/apa\\_style/apa\\_formatting\\_and\\_style\\_guide/in\\_text\\_citations\\_the\\_basics.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/in_text_citations_the_basics.html))
- Single citation: Waller (2007) or (Waller, 2007)
- Multiple citations in alphabetical of author surname (Beier, 2016; Waller, 2007)
- Where a page number is required, please include in the bracket using the following formatting:
  - **Example 1:** (Dyson, 2017, p. 442–468)
  - **Example 2:** Smith et al. (2020) found that "students benefit from spaced practice" (p. 14).

##### Numerals

- In prose text: numbers up to ten are written in full, digits apply to numbers 11 and over. This applies to centuries too (e.g. 20th-century not twentieth-century).

- In tables, use numerals for all numbers.

#### Spelling and grammar

- US spelling
- Dashes: unspaced em dash when used as a grammatical device, unspaced en dash for number ranges, unspaced en dash for connections (e.g. text–image integration)
- Do not italicize: et al.
- Italicize: major publication titles, volume number
- Double quotes for quotations, single quotes for colloquialisms or quotes within quotes

#### Images and tables

- Indicate figure placement immediately after the paragraph in which the figure or table cross-reference is first mentioned. Use square bracket e.g. [insert Figure 1]. We will do our best to keep figures and tables in close proximity to the relevant text but please bear in mind that figures and tables will be placed at the top and bottom of pages.

#### Caption example:

- **Figure 1.** Caption starts with initial capital and ends with a full stop regardless of whether it is a full or partial sentence.
- Always provide a cross reference in the text: e.g. Figure 1 shows ... or, if at the end of a sentence (Figure 1).
- The same formatting and cross referencing guidance applies to tables e.g. Table 1.

#### Quotations

- Use blockquotes for quotations that are longer than 40 words.

#### Please include the following at the end of your manuscript:

#### References

- Heading: References (unnumbered level 1 heading)
- Use APA 7th referencing style (See: [https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\\_and\\_citation/apa\\_style/apa\\_formatting\\_and\\_style\\_guide/in\\_text\\_citations\\_the\\_basics.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/in_text_citations_the_basics.html))

#### Author bio

Please include an author bio (of fewer than 100 words) for each author under the heading Author (sole author) or Authors (co-authored).

#### **Please include the following at the end of your manuscript, when applicable:**

Acknowledgements, funding and conflicts of interest:

These sub-sections should be omitted from the anonymized version.

- Acknowledgements: Authors are welcome to include a short statement of acknowledgements, if appropriate.
- Funding: If you are reporting on funded research, please disclose all sources of funding that supported the research, including grant numbers and sponsoring organizations.
- Conflicts of interest: If applicable, please provide a statement outlining any potential conflicts of interest—financial, personal, or professional—that could have influenced the work.

#### **If your submission is accepted for publication, you'll be asked to upload images as separate files:**

##### Image specifications

- Figures must be uploaded as separate images (not combined in PDF) in PNG or TIFF formats.
- Figures to be named with their order in the article (Figure 01, Figure 02.etc.).
- Labels in images must be capitalized (sentence case).
- All figures must be 300ppi resolution.
- Figures should be delivered in both RGB and CMYK colour modes.