

INFORMATION FOR CONTRIBUTORS

SCOPE

Politics and the Life Sciences (PLS) welcomes new, original research manuscripts that rigorously assess the relationship between biological mechanisms, broadly construed, and political behavior and institutions. The range of appropriate submissions is extraordinarily wide. Potential authors include, but are not limited to, political scientists, psychologists, life scientists, clinicians, health policy scholars, bioethicists, biosecurity and international-security experts, environmental scientists and ecological economists, moral and evolutionary philosophers, political and environmental historians, communications and public-opinion researchers, and legal scholars.

CRITERIA

PLS publishes rigorously conducted empirical research, both quantitative and qualitative, that tests clearly articulated theoretical assertions and rigorously argued theoretical essays that are intended to stimulate further scientific research. It employs double-blind peer review in which reviewers are asked to rate a manuscript on several criteria including the worthiness and appropriateness of the subject, the scientific contribution of the manuscript, the rigor of the arguments and analyses, and the overall quality of the manuscript.

To be considered, a submission must not have been published elsewhere, either in whole or in part, or be concurrently under review for publication elsewhere. A manuscript must offer new knowledge or a new understanding of existing knowledge. It must be both “political” and “life-scientific” in its implications, if not in its methods. Scholars of politics must take care to ensure that the life sciences content of their submissions is well-researched and supported, and scholars of the life sciences must take equal care to ensure that the political content of their work is theoretically sound, historically accurate, and philosophically aware.

The editors welcome submission of the following types of manuscripts:

- Research Articles (up to 15,000 words) present novel empirical and/or theoretical findings that are based on rigorously conducted quantitative or qualitative research. Research Articles present complete Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion sections.
- Short Reports (up to 5,000 words) present summaries of novel findings that do not meet the level of theoretical and/or empirical contribution expected in Research Articles but do provide advances in research that are likely to stimulate further investigation.
- Meta-Analysis Reports (up to 5,000 words) present rigorously conducted meta-analyses of previous research, both published and unpublished, that are designed to derive conclusions about a well-defined question.
- Replication Reports (up to 5,000 words) present summaries of rigorously conducted replications of previously published research findings.
- Research Tool Reports (up to 5,000 words) introduce and present best practices, innovations, or emerging research methods and techniques that can advance biopolitical research.
- Perspectives (up to 10,000 words) seek to develop and advance in a rigorous, systematic way new theory that is relevant to biopolitical research.
- Book Reviews (1,000-1,500 words) critically inform readers of the contents of a book and the arguments of its author(s). Review Essays (2,000-3,000 words) critically review and integrate the arguments of two or more books. *PLS* encourages pre-registered studies and registered reports.

REQUIRED ELEMENTS

Submissions must include the following two documents as separate uploaded files (files can be either MS word, PDF, LaTeX, or Zip files):

1. Title Page: The author must attach a separate document containing titling information, which includes the title of the manuscript and one author’s full contact information (including email address, telephone number, institutional affiliation, and her or his institutional position [e.g., graduate student, postdoctoral fellow, or Assistant Professor]). It must also include all the names, institutional affiliations, and institutional positions of all co-authors. As well, this document should include Twitter handles for all authors on Twitter, which will be used for publicity if the paper is accepted for publication. Finally, authors should include the word count of the manuscript. The title page, tables, figures, references, keywords, and any online appendices are not included in the word count.
2. Full Manuscript: This document should be anonymized and include the complete manuscript including the manuscript title, an abstract, keywords, the word count, the full body of the text, tables, figures, appendices, and references. The abstract should be a single paragraph of 150 words or less that succinctly describes the research question addressed, the analytical approach, and the major findings. It should exclude references and citations to other work. Manuscript text and appendix materials should be double-spaced in a standard 12-point type font. Other materials, including tables and figures, may be single-spaced using the same font and size used in the body of manuscript. Tables and figures should be included in the manuscript where they are discussed. Explanatory foot- and endnotes are discouraged. All identifying information

must be removed from the full manuscript file. This includes acknowledgments of funding, research assistance, or other institutional or personal information that could identify the author(s). Published articles require APA-formatted in-text citations and references as well as APA-formatted reports of statistical tests.

ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPTS

Before publication, all authors will be required to provide a brief disclosure statement concerning possible conflicts of interest. Further, authors using data from human subjects will be required to submit documentation of Institutional or Human Subjects Review Board Approval for their study or, if not possible, an explanation of how they addressed ethical issues in their research. If there are particular issues that required or should have required special ethical consideration because they were beyond minimal risk to the subjects or for other reasons, it will be expected that the authors address these issues in the manuscript itself.

Finally, authors of empirical papers presenting statistical analyses will be strongly encouraged to make appropriate files publicly available for replication purposes.

SUBMISSION

All submissions to *PLS* should be made online through ScholarOne at: mc.manuscriptcentral.com/pls. As part of the submission process, authors will be given the opportunity to suggest possible reviewers, designate keywords, and identify appropriate classifications of the manuscript.

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