

# Guidelines for Authors

## Introduction

*Dialogues in Philosophy, Mental and Neuro Sciences* is the official journal of the association *Crossing Dialogues*. Its major aim is to improve interdisciplinary communication in related fields such as psychology, psychiatry, philosophy, cognitive sciences and neurosciences.

*Dialogues in Philosophy, Mental and Neuro Sciences* is intended to be an answer to the observation that “journals dedicated to theoretical discussions are a large minority and that the journals with high impact factors prefer quantitative research” and to the demand for “more journals dedicated to qualitative discussions and interdisciplinary dialogues” (*Int J Evid Based Healthc* 2006;4:396-397).

*Dialogues in Philosophy, Mental and Neuro Sciences* welcomes interdisciplinary contributions from the following related fields: Psychiatry, Psychology, Psychopathology, Experimental Psychology, Cognitive Sciences, Neurosciences, Medicine, Psychosomatics, Biology, Clinical and Experimental Pharmacology, Psychotherapy, Ethnopsychiatry, Cultural Psychology, Multicultural Counseling, Philosophy of Science, Epistemology, Philosophy of Mind, Phenomenology, Philosophy of Medicine, Philosophy of Psychopathology, Philosophy of Language, Semiotics, Systemic Theories, Complexity Theories, Sociology, Anthropology, Ethics.

*Dialogues in Philosophy, Mental and Neuro Sciences* accepts papers for the following sections:

- a) *Original Papers*: Articles focusing on relevant topics in the above enlisted fields. Interdisciplinary and intercultural qualitative discussions are welcomed. Theoretical and conceptual studies are the most appropriate for this section. Quantitative data will also be accepted if they are theoretically relevant in a broader context than that of a limited speciality; in this case a theoretical discussion should be included.
- b) *Negative experimental results*: Despite philosophical considerations on the importance of negative experimental results as possible refutations of theories, authors find often difficult to publish their negative results. This section is specifically dedicated to experimental negative results in the above enlisted fields. Authors should report concisely but comprehensively the experimental design and the negative results and then add two final sections: one dedicated to possible biases (reasons that suggest caution to the generalization of these data) and the other one discussing theoretical implications.
- c) *New ideas*: Brief articles dedicated to young authors and/or new and uncommon ideas. In accordance with the Kuhnian description of scientific activities guided by a paradigm, peer-reviews procedures tend to facilitate articles in line with the dominant paradigm and to exclude papers presenting new and uncommon ideas. By means of a low impact threshold for publication, this section is designed to increase the publication of new and possibly revolutionary ideas.

- d) *Dialogues*: Comments to published articles are welcomed. The aim of this section is to increase the exchange of ideas on relevant issues, by means of a direct dialogue between the editorial staff, the authors and their readers. Multiple points of view and interdisciplinary discussions will be facilitated.

## **Ethical considerations**

*Dialogues in Philosophy, Mental and Neuro Sciences* supports the principles of the Declaration of Helsinki, and expect the authors of manuscripts submitted to the journal to have obtained ethical consent for experimental designs and have followed ethical principles in presenting their theoretical ideas. The editor reserves the right to refute manuscripts if the ideas there reported are considered unethical or offensive. In any case, author(s) are legally responsible for the ideas expressed in his/their works and for the correctness of the experimental procedures used in his/their researches. In clinical cases and human experimental studies it is mandatory to preserve patients' anonymity and to have obtained informed consent.

## **Submission**

Manuscript written in English are considered and should be submitted online to the editor in chief: [editor@crossingdialogues.com](mailto:editor@crossingdialogues.com). All manuscripts are subjected to the editorial review. They are accepted on the understanding that they report unpublished work that is not under consideration for publication elsewhere. Submission of an article for publication implies the transfer of the copyright from the author to the publisher upon acceptance. Accepted papers become a permanent property of "*Dialogues in Philosophy, Mental and Neuro Sciences*" and cannot be reproduced by any means (whole or in part) without the written consent of the publisher. It is responsibility of the author(s) to obtain permission to reproduce tables, illustrations, etc. from other publications.

Manuscripts submitted under multiple authorship are considered for publication under the assumption that each author has substantially contributed to the article and has approved the final version of the manuscript. It is the corresponding author who is responsible for this and for the content of the manuscript.

If authors prefer to submit their papers in Italian, Spanish or French the **translation form** should be sent together with the paper: each page will be charged €25 following the paging rules given in the appropriate section.

Should you experience problems with your submission, please contact: [info@crossingdialogues.com](mailto:info@crossingdialogues.com).

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Editorial Office '*Dialogues in Philosophy, Mental and Neuro Sciences*'

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## Review Process

Submitted manuscripts will be independently peer reviewed in all cases except invited articles and manuscripts submitted for the “*New Ideas*” section. Reviewers remain anonymous. Papers for the “*New Ideas*” section will be directly evaluated by the editorial staff. Only logical (e.g. internal coherence of the script) and ethical considerations will be deliberated in this case. The Editor takes the final decision on all manuscripts and his assessment is definitive. The editorial staff of *Dialogues in Philosophy, Mental and Neuro Sciences* aims to reach a decision in a very short time (about three weeks’).

**Proofs:** Galley proofs are sent to the corresponding author and should be returned within three working days. Alterations made in galley proofs, other than the correction of printer's errors, will be charged to the author(s).

## Paging and References layout

**Paging:** Manuscripts must be typed double-spaced on A4 format sheets (21 x 29.7cm). Margins: top-bottom 3cm, left-right: 2cm. Font: *Times New Roman*: 12pt.

Manuscripts should be arranged as follows:

**Title page:** The first page of each paper should include the full title, the authors’ full names (no initials of the first name), each author's affiliation, the address (postal and e-mail) of the corresponding author. Please also supply phone and fax numbers.

**Abstract page:** The second page should include an abstract not exceeding 350 words and up to six keywords.

**Text:** Whenever possible, the text should be divided into major sections such as:

**Original theoretical papers:** Introduction, Discussion (if useful, this may be divided in more sub-paragraphs), Conclusions, Acknowledgments and References.

**Original research papers:** Introduction, Materials and Methods, Statistical Analysis, Results, Discussion, Acknowledgments and References.

**Papers about “*Negative experimental results*”:** Introduction, Experimental design (including briefly Materials, Methods and Statistical Analysis), Negative Results, Study Limitations, Discussion of theoretical implications, Acknowledgments and References.

**New ideas:** Brief articles should be structured as: title, author(s)/affiliation/address, Introduction (including Methods when useful), Discussion, Conclusions and References. They should not exceed 1500 words (references included; title, author(s) names, affiliation and address excluded).

**Dialogues:** Manuscripts should not exceed 600 words (references included; title, author(s) names, affiliation and address excluded). They might be written as “*letters to the Editor*”, although author(s) are free to choose the form they consider more appropriate. Tables and figures are not allowed.

**Endnotes:** Avoid footnotes. When essential, endnotes numbered consecutively and typed in a separate page at the end of the manuscript (after conclusions) are allowed.

**Tables and illustrations:** Tables and illustrations should have a title and should be numbered in Arabic numerals. They should be prepared on separate sheets and their number should be kept to a minimum. Any abbreviations used must be defined. High resolution illustrations should be submitted in TIF, JPG or PNG format (choose the preferred format). Illustrations should be sent in a file separated from the text. Figure legends should be typed single-spaced below the figure.

**References:** References in the text, endnotes, tables, and legends must be identified by giving the name of the author(s) followed by the year of publication. When there are more than two authors, only the name of the first author should be given, followed by “et al.”. When it is cited more than one work of the same author(s) published in the same year, the year of publication should be followed by a consecutive letter, accordingly to the order of appearance in the text (e.g. 2002a, 2002b, etc.).

References should be listed in alphabetical order in a reference list at the end of the article. They should be typed double-space. The reference list must include all authors referred to in the text, endnotes, tables or legends. In the reference list, all authors should be listed. When essential, material submitted for publication but not yet accepted, as well as other unpublished writings, should be directly mentioned in the text as “*unpublished*” or “*personal communication*” and not be included in the reference list.

References should follow the style of the "Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals" (N Engl J Med 1997;336:309–315) with the exception that paging should be complete. The titles of journals should be abbreviated in accordance with the Index Medicus system. For identifying and citing articles published online without volume or issue information the DOI number should be used. References should include: the surname of the authors followed by initials, titles of papers referred to, the abbreviated title of the journal, year, volume, first and last page number of article cited.

For printed writings the style of the following examples should be considered:

*Papers published in periodicals:* Green B, Young R, Kavanagh D. Cannabis use and misuse prevalence among people with psychosis. Br J Psychiatry 2005;187:306-313.

*Books:* Hacking I. The social construction of what? Harvard University Press, Cambridge and London, 1999.

*Chapters in edited books:* Alarcón R, Alegria M, Bell CC, Boyce C, Kirmayer LJ, Lin K-M, Lopez S, Üstün B, Wisner KL. Beyond the funhouse mirrors: research agenda on culture and psychiatric diagnosis. In: Kupfer DJ, First MB, Regier DA. (Eds) A research agenda for DSM-V. American Psychiatric Association, Washington DC, 2002:219-281.

**Style:** *Dialogues in Philosophy, Mental and Neuro Sciences* reserves the right to modify manuscripts where necessary to make them conform with the style of the journal. Before publication the journal's language editor will revise manuscripts in order to control stylistic requirements.

**Page charges:**

**Original Papers and Negative experimental results:** Each page of the manuscript is charged €10 to the author(s). Title and abstract pages are excluded. Manuscripts that do not strictly follow the indicated paging (see above) will not be sent to referees and will be returned to authors. Costs for tables and illustration will depend on their size. Before final acceptance, author(s) will receive information about the detailed cost.

**New ideas:** Every paper (1500 words, references included; title, author(s) names, affiliation and address excluded) is charged €60 to the author(s).

**Dialogues:** Comments to published articles are published free of costs.

**Translation fees:** In case of translation from Italian, Spanish or French, each page will be charged €25 following the paging rules given in the appropriate section.

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The corresponding Author contracts himself to pay the effective charge based on the number of pages following the paging rules established in the "Paging of article" section. The Author declares that all co-authors of this article have been informed of the submission. The Author signs for and accepts responsibility for releasing this material on behalf of any and all Co-authors.

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