

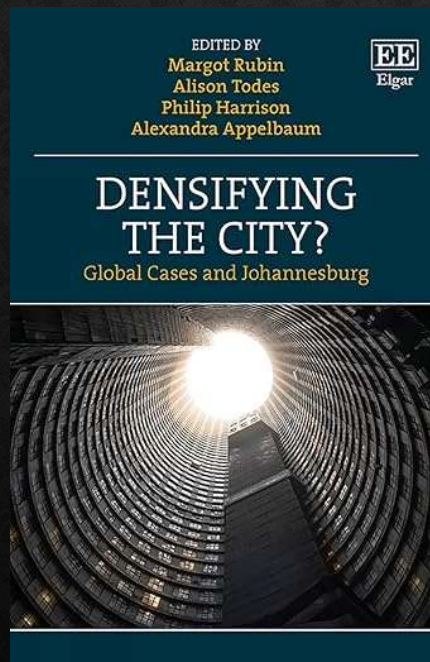
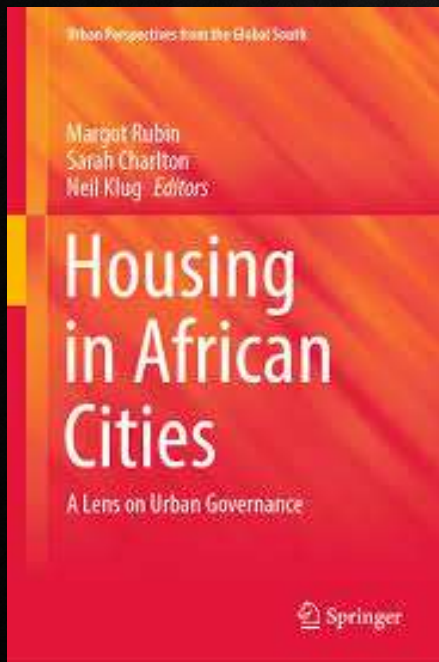
# **VREF: TOOLS OF THE TRADE**

## The Publishing Lifecycle



# INTRODUCTION

- This is me: 30 articles and book chapters
- Editor of African Studies 4 years/TWQ Editorial Board
- CU Press

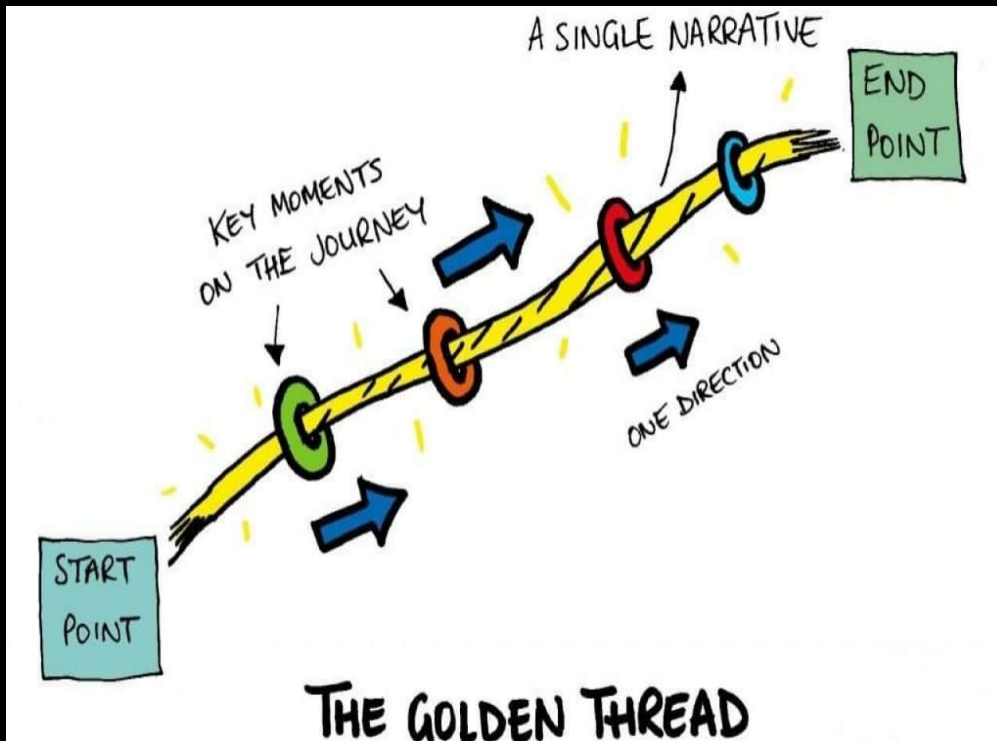




<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic/s</b>	<b>Activity</b>
10 min	<b>1.Welcome and introduction</b>	
25 min	<b>2.Conception</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Individual exercise</li> <li>•Paired exercise</li> </ul>
15 min	<b>3.Choosing a journal: how and why?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•quick poll (menti)</li> <li>•Individual exercise</li> </ul>
15 min	<b>4.Strategies for Writing</b>	Top tips
10 min	<b>Questions so far</b>	
15 min	<b>Comfort break</b>	
15 min	<b>5.Ethics of Writing and publishing</b>	Short video
10 min	<b>6.Submission</b>	
15 min	<b>7.Reviewers' comments and what they mean</b>	Online game
15 min	<b>8.Q and A</b>	

# PROGRAMME FOR THE DAY

# 1. CONCEPTION



- Conceiving the idea – what is it that you want to write about?
- What is the argument/contribution that you want to make?
- Is there a specific line of argument that you agree with/partially agree with but want to nuance/don't agree with and want to challenge?
- Remember that although the specifics of your study are interesting and important the journals really want to see the generation of new ideas and conceptual thinking – the minutiae of a specific study is not that interesting to anyone but us.

## Well-being and mobility: A theoretical framework and literature review focusing on older people

[S Nordbakke](#), [T Schwanen](#)

*Mobilities*, 2014 · Taylor & Francis

### Abstract

There is an increasing attention for how mobility is associated with well-being amongst people in general and older adults in particular. Comparisons across research projects and articles are, however, hampered by the different understandings and conceptualisations of well-being that are employed. We, firstly, develop a heuristic framework for understanding the concept of well-being, and secondly, use this to explore possible linkages between well-being and mobility and to critically examine the various conceptualisations of well-being in research on mobility in later life. It is argued that future work on well-being and mobility should consider both the objective and the subjective and the hedonic and eudaimonic dimensions of well-being, and should pay detailed attention to the multiple ways in which well-being and its linkages to mobility are context-dependent and shaped by the particularities of time and place.

 Taylor & Francis Online

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## Rethinking mobile methods

[P Merriman](#)

*Mobility and the Humanities*, 2019 · [taylorfrancis.com](#)

Over the past, few years a broad range of scholars have been emphasising the vital importance of methodological innovation and diversification to mobilities research. Whilst welcoming this pluralisation of research methods, this paper encourages a note of caution amongst researchers who wholly embrace the call for mobile methods, which are frequently justified by an assumption that 'conventional' or 'traditional' methods have failed. I outline some of the explanations that are given for the development of 'mobile methods' – including their inevitable emergence from a 'new mobilities paradigm', the importance of innovation and political relevance for social science methods, and their importance for apprehending elusive practices – before identifying a number of problems with this work: namely the assumption that mobilities research is necessarily a branch of social science research, the production of over-animated mobile subjects and objects, the prioritising of certain kinds of research methods and practices, and the overreliance on certain kinds of technology. Particular attention is paid to the use of 'non-representational theories' and theories of practice in mobilities research, wherein academics frequently suggest that we must adopt certain performative, participative, or ethnographic techniques to enable researchers to be, see or move with research subjects, and to more effectively or accurately understand those practices and subjects. In the final section, I draw upon historical research on early driving practices to highlight the diverse methods and sources that can be useful for mobilities scholars seeking to apprehend particular practices, events, subjects and spaces.

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# THINGS TO CONSIDER

Contingent infrastructure and the dilution of 'Chineseness': Reframing roads and rail in Kampala and Addis Ababa

- Why would anyone who is not interested in your region/city/community etc be interested in your paper?
- What is it that your research tells us about wider phenomenon.
- Go beyond the descriptive – the analytical and the theoretical

Inclusionary housing policy in cities of the south: Navigating a path between continuity and disruption



# INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITY

- Start now: sketch out your argument – 5 minute shots – let's go

# PAIRED ACTIVITY

## Instructions

- You will now be divided into pairs (randomly)
- you have 10 minutes to discuss your argument and get feedback,

## Rules of engagement

- Be kind and be constructive
- Make sure both of you get a chance to talk
- Be honest – do you understand the argument?



# INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITY

- Now take two more minutes and think about the feedback that you received:
- Would you change your argument?
- Tighten it up?
- Reconsider it – there are loads of papers that have never been written

### 3. CHOOSING A JOURNAL: HOW AND WHY?

- Cannot emphasise enough how important this is
- Follow the Menti and let's see why people think this is important?



<https://www.menti.com/al7np39rifs5>





### Citation metrics



### Speed/acceptance

- **2.3 (2024)** Impact Factor
- **Q1** Impact Factor Best Quartile
- **3.1 (2024)** 5 year IF
- **6.3 (2024)** CiteScore (Scopus)
- **Q1** CiteScore Best Quartile
- **1.900 (2024)** SNIP
- **0.772 (2024)** SJR
- **0** days avg. from submission to first decision
- **95** days avg. from submission to first post-review decision
- **40** days avg. from acceptance to online publication
- **23%** acceptance rate

### DISCUSS MENTI RESULTS

- Consider where is your work best placed
- Which debates are raging where?
- Where is your work a best fit?
- Then look at the metrics of a journal

# INDIVIDUAL EXERCISE

- Take 3 minutes and look at your favourite journal, their impact factor, their submission procedures, costs associated with them, their rejection rates–
- if you don't have one try Applied Mobilities:
- <https://www.tandfonline.com/journals/rapm20/about-this-journal#journal-metrics>
- Still want to publish in this journal?
- Can re-think once start writing



## 4. STRATEGIES FOR WRITING

- So you have an argument, data and some idea where you want to publish.
- What next?

• **WRITE! WRITE! WRITE!**

## HOW?

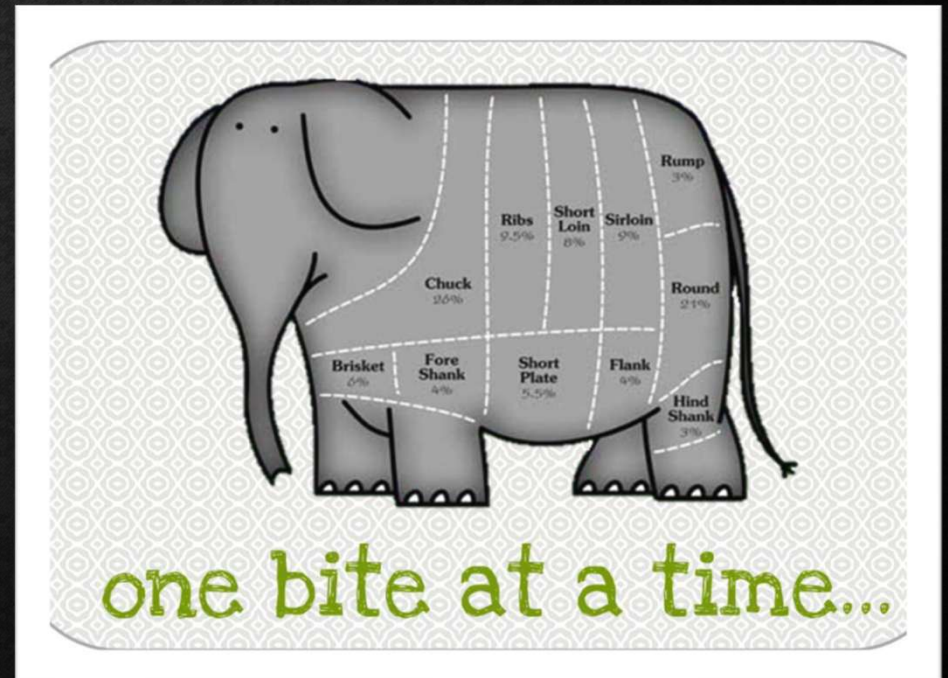
- Start by reading !
- Know the field
- Know the arguments/debates
- Read widely– North/South: East/West –
- Where do you and your work fit in
- Make sure your data is sound





# ACADEMIC JOKE

- How do you eat an elephant?
- Bite by bite



# PLANNING YOUR ARTICLE



- Same with writing
- Spend some time carefully designing your paper
- What goes where
- Make a plan
- Assign number of words to each section
- Assign data to each section
- Eat the elephant bit by bit



# JOURNAL ARTICLE TEMPLATE

## 1. Title

**Make it relevant but also enticing and not too long!!!  
10-15 words max!**

You Probably Think This Paper's About You: Narcissists' Perceptions of Their Personality and Reputation. (Carlson et al, 2012)

CRISPR Bacon: A Sizzling Technique to Generate Genetically Engineered Pigs

It's also complete with a figure that uses a strip of bacon in place of DNA.

"Life of the Party: The Origins of Regime Breakdown and Persistence under Single-Party Rule" (Smith 2011)



# JOURNAL ARTICLE TEMPLATE

1. Title	<b>Make it relevant but also enticing and not too long!!! 10-15 words max!</b>
2. Introduction	Tell the reader what the problematique is and how you are going to solve it in this paper – do the big reveal – what is your main argument and main contribution – DO NOT BE SHY!
3. Literature Review	Do not call it the lit review – tell the reader what is in the section. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Locate your study</li><li>• Set out the main debates</li><li>• Set out your conceptual framing</li></ul>
4. Methods section	Proof that your work has voracity – give details and context
5. Data and analysis	Do not call it data and analysis – Can do both at the same time <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Offer themes</li><li>- Evidence claims</li><li>- Signpost back to the main argument/Golden Thread</li></ul>
6. Conclusion	No new data/no new ideas What does it all add up to Take it back to the Golden Thread/Main argument

A photograph of a grand, historic library. The room features a high, vaulted ceiling with exposed wooden beams. On either side of a central aisle, there are tall, dark wood bookshelves filled with books. A second level with a dark metal railing is visible above the main floor. In the center of the room, there are several round wooden tables with chairs. The floor is covered in a light-colored carpet. The overall atmosphere is quiet and scholarly.

**ACTUALLY WRITING**

# ACTUALLY WRITING

- Loads of ways to skin a cat – early morning, late afternoon,
- Things you don't necessarily need: ages and ages and ages at a time to write – write in the nooks and crannies
- Writing is not a luxury – **writing is a necessity** – do not shunt it down the list of priorities – set time aside for it – one hour a day/a week – a whole day
- What are your top tips for writing? Either getting started or keeping up a rhythm?



<https://www.menti.com/al7np39rifs5>



# WRITING STYLE

- Check your style – do not use the overly formal style of our predecessors
- Do NOT use polysyllabic word followed by polysyllabic word/Excessively verbose language... write clearly so even a non-expert can understand what you are trying to say.
- Do NOT use jargon
- Be specific - do not make vague, general wafty statements – Back in the day, way back when
- Reference!
- Get someone who does not love you to read your work – then get someone who does

*Enthusiasm for artificial intelligence (AI) has been high for as far back as hardly any years, arriving at the top in 2018. This promotion is because of the critical advances in the field of AI and the broad applications in reality [1] – Hussain et al 2020*

Accounting for the origin of any conceptual requires specifying the innate building blocks from which the representations are built, and specifying the learning mechanisms that accomplish the feat. – Philos, 2009

# QUESTIONS SO FAR

- Please put up your hand or stick them in the chat

10 minute comfort break

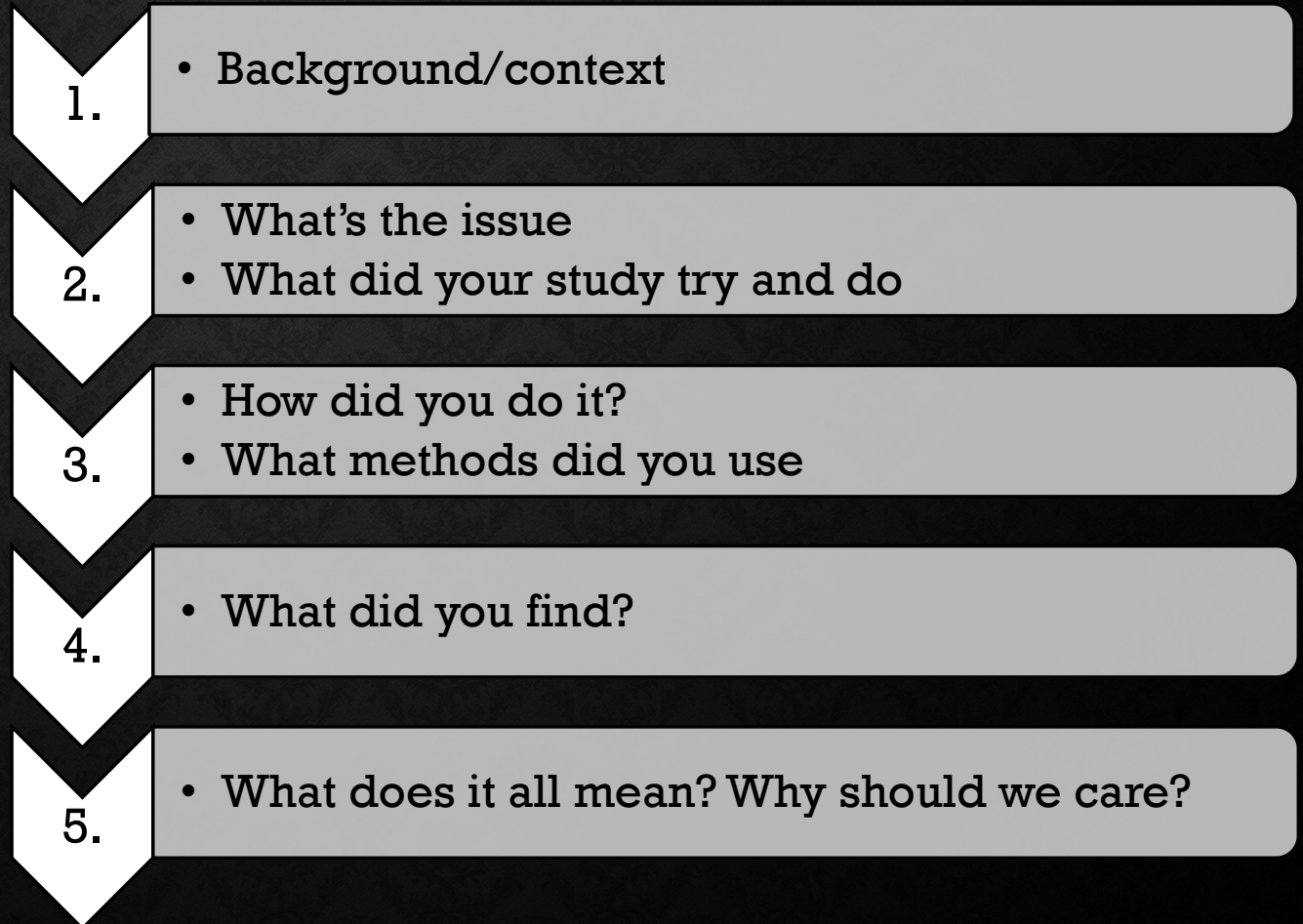


# 5. ETHICS OF WRITING AND PUBLISHING

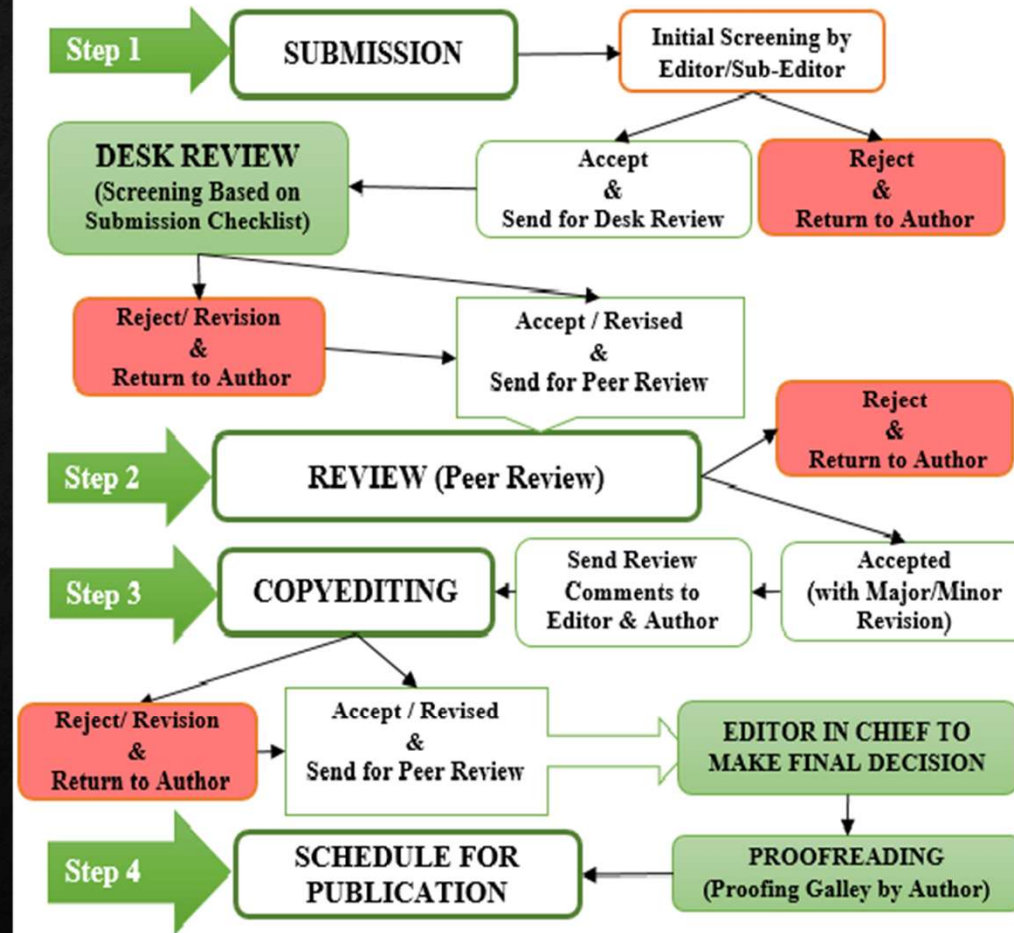
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KC1KPvBm5lE>
- Other ethical issues:
  - Authorship – who is an author?
  - Who to cite? The politics of citation
  - Plagiarism/self-plagiarism
  - Conflict of interests
  - Originality
  - Data integrity

## 6. SUBMISSION

- Write an abstract



## Publishing Process





# **CATEGORIES OF RESPONSES**

Accept

Conditional accepts

Minor Corrections

Major Corrections

Reject and resubmit

Reject

# GAME: INTERPRETING REVIEWERS' COMMENTS

- See if you can tell what the reviewer means



<https://www.menti.com/al7np39rifs5>

# QUESTIONS SO FAR

- Please put up your hand or stick them in the chat



- Thank you
- Ngyabonga
  - Diolch
  - Dankie

- [Rubinm@Cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:Rubinm@Cardiff.ac.uk)

# RESOURCES

## The Golden Thread:

- <https://www.mwediting.com/golden-thread-in-academic-writing/>
- [https://ideas.repec.org/h/elg/eechap/23326\\_23.html](https://ideas.repec.org/h/elg/eechap/23326_23.html)

## Citation metrics

<https://hslmcmaster.libguides.com/impact/types/citation-based#:~:text=Citation%2Dbased%20research%20metrics%20look,28%2C%202025%204:53%20PM>

<https://authorservices.taylorandfrancis.com/publishing-your-research/choosing-a-journal/journal-metrics/>

## Tips for writing

<https://writingcenter.fas.harvard.edu/pages/strategies-essay-writing>

<https://subjectguides.york.ac.uk/academic-writing>

# RESOURCES

## Academic Writing style:

- <https://subjectguides.york.ac.uk/academic-writing/academic-style>
- <https://slc.berkeley.edu/writing-worksheets-and-other-writing-resources/nine-basic-ways-improve-your-style-academic-writing>

## Ethics:

<https://www.tandfonline.com/action/authorSubmission?show=instructions&journalCode=rmb20>

<https://www.sagepub.com/journals/publication-ethics-policies/ethics-responsibility>

## How to write an abstract

<https://plos.org/resource/how-to-write-a-great-abstract/>

<https://blogs.bath.ac.uk/academic-and-employability-skills/2020/07/07/writing-an-abstract-a-six-point-checklist-with-samples/>