

Educational Research Manuscript Template

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Note: This is a generic template. You can easily customize based on specific journal requirements.

Introduction

[In this section, you provide the context of your study and discuss the importance of the research topic. Depending on the nature of your research, this section can be organized in different ways. Below are a few examples of different types of studies and how you can write the Introduction section.]

Example study 1: Evaluating the effectiveness of an innovative teaching strategy

First, discuss the challenges students face in your subject area (e.g., pathology, pharmacology, etc.).

For example, lack of engagement, don't see relevance, hard to apply in clinic, etc.

Second, introduce the teaching strategy you have implemented to address the challenges. For example, concept mapping, animation/games, etc.

A brief overview is sufficient. You will describe the new approach in detail in the Methods section.

Finally, state the purpose(s) of your research. You can also list research questions here.

Example: The purposes of this study are to.....Specifically, this study aims to answer the following three research questions: 1...2....3.

Example study 2: Compare two different teaching strategies

First, describe the traditional teaching strategy (e.g., lecture) and discuss its challenges.

Second, introduce the new teaching strategy (e.g., online learning) that you implemented to address the challenges. *A brief overview is sufficient.*

Finally, state the purpose(s) of your research. You can also list specific research questions here.

Example study 3: Examining the impact of a faculty development program

First, briefly discuss the importance of faculty development in pedagogy.

Second, introduce the faculty development program that you delivered. *A brief overview is sufficient.*

Finally, state the purpose(s) of your research. You can also list research questions here.

Literature Review

[In this section, you review, summarize, and synthesize research that has already been conducted by other researchers. Although it is highly recommended to have a Literature Review/Theoretical Framework section, some journals don't have this requirement. In this case, "Introduction" and "Literature Review" can be combined into one single section.]

First, Summarize and synthesize research that has already been conducted by other researchers.

Second, identify and briefly summarize the gaps in literature.

Examples: Did existing research report inconsistent findings? Is there a lack of research on some important areas/aspects?

Finally, state that your study is guided by the identified gaps.

Methods

[In this section, describe your participants, your intervention/program, data collection instruments, and data analysis techniques.]

First of all, state that this study has been approved by the university's Institutional Review Board (IRB). Provide the IRB approval number.

Study context and participants

First, briefly introduce the institution and school where this study is conducted.

Examples: Is it a public or private university? Does the school run on a quarter or semester system? Types of degree programs offered? Duration of program? Total number of enrolled students? Class sizes?

Second, introduce your participants.

Examples: Total number of students invited? Total number of students responded and response rate? Participant demographic information such as gender and age?

Program description

In this section, describe in detail when and how the course/program/innovation was designed and implemented.

Data collection

Examples: What instruments did you use to collect data (e.g., surveys, quiz, focus group, artifacts)? How many questions in the survey? How long was the interview? What question formats were used (MCQ, open-ended)? Who developed the instruments developed? When/how was it administered (printed or online)?

Data analysis

Examples:

- *Quantitative data: What tool did you use to perform the analysis (e.g., Excel, SPSS)? What statistical analysis did you perform (e.g., t-test, chi-square, regression, ANOVA)?*
- *Qualitative data: What analysis techniques did you use (e.g., coding data to identify emerging themes)?*

Results

[In this section, present your quantitative and/or qualitative findings. It is recommended to present findings based on research questions for ease of reading by reviewers and audience. This approach is highly recommended especially when you have a lot of data to present.]

Findings for research question one

Briefly reiterate your research question and then present the findings. If you have quantitative and qualitative data (e.g., survey and focus group), you can compare them.

Example: If students' survey responses showed that they have very positive attitude towards online learning, were the interview data consist with the survey findings? You can provide a few representative quotes from students.

Findings for research question two

Findings for research question three

Discussions

[In this section, discuss the significance, implications, and limitations of your study, and propose future plans.]

First, discuss why your findings are important, what implications your findings have for practice, and what conclusions you can draw. You can also compare your findings with what have already been reported in literature. Are your findings consistent/inconsistent with previous research?

Second, discuss the limitations of your study.

Examples: Small sample size; only one dental school; only in dentistry (so that findings cannot be generalized to other disciplines); didn't have a control group; used only one single source of data; etc.

Finally, discuss future research plan.

Based on the identified limitations, what is your future plan? What suggestions do you have for other researchers?

Examples: Employ a larger sample size? Use a control group? Collect data on student learning outcomes?

Conclusions

[Provide a very brief recap of the goals of your study and overall findings and conclusions. A short paragraph is sufficient.]

References

Format your reference based on specific requirements of the journal you are submitting to.

Appendix

Survey questions

Interview/focus group questions

Quiz questions

Rubric