

V. GUIDELINE QUESTIONS FOR EMPIRICAL RESEARCH PAPERS

Content criteria

1. Did you manage to find the best title?
2. Does the abstract accurately reflect the content?
3. Are the keywords too general?

4. Are the objective and hypotheses clear and understandable?
5. Is the rationale for the hypotheses convincing?
6. Is the literature review sufficiently thorough?
7. Does the literature review provide an analysis?
8. Does the introduction clearly explain which methodological approaches were used to achieve the research objective?
9. Are the concepts well defined?

10. Is all relevant methodological information provided?
11. Is the operationalization of theoretical concepts convincing?
12. Is the sample selection appropriate, and does the paper provide all relevant information on this issue?
13. Are there any obvious validity issues?

14. Has the reliability and validity of the measuring instruments been documented?
15. Are the figures and tables well-formatted?
16. Are there any inconsistencies between the text and the figures/tables?
17. Is the presentation of the results clear and unambiguous?
18. Is the presentation of the results of the statistical tests appropriate?

19. Does the discussion refer back to the theoretical issues discussed in the introduction?
20. Are the conclusions realistic, convincing, and sufficiently detailed?

Formal criteria

1. Does the title page include all the necessary information?

2. Is there an abstract?
3. Are the pages numbered?
4. Is the paper properly structured with subheadings?
5. Is the use of formatting consistent?
6. Are the figures formatted correctly?
7. Do the in-text citations comply with the guidelines?
8. Does the reference list comply with the guidelines?
9. Are the required ethics appendices included? (Ethics approval or exemption form, informed consent form.)

Stylistic criteria

1. Is the tone and language academic?
2. Are there any inappropriate (naive, clumsy, colloquial) phrases in the text?
3. Are there any spelling errors?
4. Are the sentences clear and to the point?
5. Are the paragraphs well-structured and linked together in a coherent sequence?
6. Is the line of reasoning clear, logical, and unbroken?