

Publication Ethics Statement

All articles published by the Journal of Textbook Research (JTR) have undergone a strict review process. Those involving plagiarism, duplicate submission, fabrication, ghostwriting, unrevealing conflicts of interest, and other inappropriate conduct ought to be declined. JTR adopts the *Publishing Ethics* advised by Elsevier B.V., and aims at a high level of professionalism and a standard of expected ethical behavior for the entire process of publishing a scholarly article. This publishing standard defines the roles of authors, reviewers, editors, as well as publishers. The duties of these stakeholders in the publishing process are described in the following.

1. Duties of authors
 - 1.1 Manuscript criteria: Manuscripts shall follow the format and rules of the JTR. References and sources shall be indicated clearly. Violating academic ethics is strictly prohibited.
 - 1.2 Data usage and completeness: The source of the data should be clearly stated in the manuscript, and all original research data should be kept.
 - 1.3 Originality and plagiarism: The originality of papers shall be greatly emphasized; any plagiarism, unclear references or unclear use of data will not be allowed.
 - 1.4 Single submission of manuscripts: Research papers shall not be submitted if their content is similar to that of another paper (or papers) already submitted.
 - 1.5 Clear citations and references: Citations and references must be very clear when others' works are being referred to.
 - 1.6 Clear lists of authors: Anyone who made contributions to the manuscript, whether by helping to plan the study or by helping to write the article, shall be deemed co-authors. Corresponding authors shall ensure that all co-authors have agreed to submit the article, and have thoroughly checked it before submission.
 - 1.7 Protecting research participants: Should the research involve experiments on or with human bodies, animals, dangerous chemicals or equipment, details shall be clearly recorded in the article and relevant rules shall be adhered to.
 - 1.8 Transparency and conflicts of interest: Authors shall disclose any information regarding financial support, patent applications, remuneration, or any other area where there might be a conflict of interest that could affect the research results and the interpretation of these results.
 - 1.9 Data correctness: Should a manuscript contain incorrect information, the author shall contact the editors and provide correct information as soon as possible.

2. Duties of reviewers

- 2.1 Professional feedback: Reviewers shall provide professional feedback in order to assist in deciding whether manuscripts meet the publication criteria.
- 2.2 Efficiency: Reviewers shall complete their work before deadlines.
- 2.3 Confidentiality: It is not allowed to reveal relevant information about manuscripts to other institutions or people other than the editors of JTR.
- 2.4 Objectivity: The reviewing work shall be carried out fairly and objectively to provide constructive comments on the manuscripts.
- 2.5 Sources of reference: Extra attention shall be paid to whether authors have made clear references to relevant previous research. If a manuscript bears more than a little similarity to other (or previous) research, reviewers shall be responsible for reminding editors of this point.
- 2.6 Transparency and conflicts of interest: Reviewers shall not use unpublished data they find in an article for their own advantage without gaining prior consent from the author. Should a conflict of interest arise between a reviewer and an author, or a reviewer and an institution, the reviewer should decline the invitation to review the manuscript.

3. Duties of editors

- 3.1 Double-blind peer review: JTR adopts a double-blind peer review policy. Editors shall keep the reviewers' and authors' information confidential and abide by review guidelines.
- 3.2 The final decision to publish: Based on the review results, editors reserve the right to determine whether a manuscript meets the publication criteria.
- 3.3 Impartiality: Reviews shall be conducted fairly and objectively using clear and consistent criteria.
- 3.4 Confidentiality: During the review process, members of the Editorial Board shall not reveal the identity of reviewers or any other relevant information to authors. It is also not allowed to reveal information about the authors to reviewers.
- 3.5 Transparency and conflicts of interest:
 - 3.51 Editors shall not use unpublished data they find in submitted articles for any purpose without gaining prior consent from authors.
 - 3.52 Editors shall not divert reviewers' suggestions to private use.
 - 3.53 Should a conflict of interest arise between an editor and an author, or an editor and an institution, the editor should avoid any editorial discussion.
- 3.6 Investigation cooperation: Should a case of violation of publication ethics occur, editors shall cooperate to the fullest extent possible in any investigation.

4. Duties of publishers

- 4.1 Publishers must ensure that any advertising or other business-related media will not affect editorial decisions.
- 4.2 Publishers shall follow the guidelines of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) to ensure that there is no violation of publication ethics or other forms of misconduct.