

Social Sciences Submission Guidelines

The social sciences section of the Las Positas Journal of Honors reviews scholarly undergraduate projects from disciplines such as psychology, sociology, political science, anthropology, and other related fields. Possible submissions for this section of the journal include empirical research studies, theoretical or conceptual papers, policy analysis, literature review papers, etc. All work submitted must demonstrate a clear research question, strong argumentation, engagement with relevant scholarly works, and original analysis. Manuscripts submitted to the social sciences section must follow APA style (7th edition) formatting and citations unless otherwise specified. Papers should be in 12-point double spaced font with one-inch margins and page numbers must appear in the top right corner of each page. Projects must include a reference list with a minimum of 10 citations.

Anonymization Requirements

All manuscripts must be fully anonymized for blind peer review. Authors must remove their names and any other self-identifying information from the manuscript. Self-citations should also be written in a way that does not reveal who the author is. **Manuscripts not anonymized will be automatically rejected.**

APA Style requirements

Submissions in the psychology and sociology disciplines and must use APA style (7th edition) for formatting, in-text citations, headings, tables, and figures. The following are guidelines for submission types:

1. **Empirical Research Articles:** Manuscripts should include original student quantitative or qualitative studies with a clearly defined research question. The structure of the manuscript should include the following sections: abstract, literature review, methods, results, and discussion. Manuscripts must be a minimum of 12 pages in length, excluding the references section.
2. **Theoretical or Conceptual Papers:** Manuscripts should apply or critique theories' arrival event to psychology or sociology. These papers may not include a methods or results section, but should be clearly organized with labeled headings and a logically structured argument. Arguments should be supported by peer-reviewed scholarly sources and cited in apa format. Manuscripts must be a minimum of 12 pages in length, excluding the references section.
3. **Literature Review Papers:** Manuscripts should synthesize existing research on the chosen topic and analyze trends, debates, and gaps in literature. Literature reviews should include an abstract, introduction, body sections, and in conclusion, with headings for each section. Manuscripts must be a minimum of 12 pages in length, excluding the references section.
4. **Case Studies:** Manuscripts should examine specific individuals, groups, or social phenomena that illustrate or connect to a broader theory or empirical issue. These papers should use relevant literature and peer-reviewed scholarly sources to explain not only the case but the rationale for the case selection. Manuscripts should be organized clearly and methodologically, using APA

citations throughout. Manuscripts must be a minimum of 12 pages in length, excluding the references section.

MLA Style Submissions

Manuscript submissions in the political science discipline may follow MLA style (9th Edition) formatting. These manuscripts should include a title, MLA formatted in text citations, and a work cited page. The following are guidelines for submission types:

1. **Theoretical Papers:** Manuscripts should engage with political, historical, or social theory through analysis of primary texts and scholarly interpretations. Arguments should be clear and supported by both scholarly sources. MLA parenthetical citations should be used consistently, and extensive textual analysis may require block quotations. Manuscripts must be a minimum of 12 pages in length, excluding the references section.
2. **Policy Analysis:** Manuscripts should examine public policies, governance structures, or political processes. Sources may include academic scholarship, policy documents, and government reports, all cited in MLA format. Manuscripts must be a minimum of 12 pages in length, excluding the references section.
3. **Case Studies:** Manuscripts should focus on a particular event, institution, community, or political phenomenon. Evidence may include primary documents, historical records, or qualitative data, all cited using MLA conventions. Manuscripts must be a minimum of 12 pages in length, excluding the references section.