

CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR A SPECIAL ISSUE

EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH FOR SOCIAL CHANGE JOURNAL

Guidelines for special issue proposals

INTRODUCTION FROM THE EDITORS

The editors of ERSC journal are committed to maintaining a high level of scholarship, which makes critical contributions to interrogating issues relating to educational research as social change, contributing to the theorising thereof, and the dissemination of current research to a broad, cross-disciplinary audience of scholars and practitioners in the field of education. Thus, colleagues are invited to propose special issues on focused themes of research in education for social change with the aim of fostering collaborative participation in exploring contemporary issues of concern and significance. We welcome proposals from prospective guest editors that further existing research in areas closely aligned to our aims and scope. For all initial queries contact the journal's administrator: reeve.wilson@mandela.ac.za

JOURNAL'S AIMS AND SCOPE

Educational Research for Social Change is an internationally recognised, peer-reviewed journal that was established in 2012 in the Faculty of Education, Nelson Mandela University. Although the notion of educational research as being transformative through its engagement with communities and the application of various participatory research approaches, is still fairly novel in many educational research circles, it offers immense opportunities for addressing critical issues through research that contributes to change. This journal therefore aims to play a pivotal role in confirming the significance of educational research as social change, thereby contributing to the theorising thereof, and the dissemination of current research to a broad, cross-disciplinary audience of scholars and practitioners in the field of education.

ERSC publishes scientific articles which:

- Draw on participatory methodologies such as Arts-Based Research (ABR), Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR), Participatory Action Research (PAR), Participatory Action Learning and Action Research (PALAR), Participatory Visual Research (PVR/PVM), Self-Study Research (SSR) and other such empirical research, located in critical and transformative paradigms, regarded as key in contributing to the transformation of education research and education itself.
- ERSC also publishes original conceptual papers, book reviews and conference and project reports, which are relevant to the scope of the journal. Each publication should clearly demonstrate its relevance to social change.

We do not accept articles that merely report on issues, where researchers harvest data from participants and interpret it to develop recommendations for change - the research itself must lead to some form of change in at least one of the following areas: change in the researcher, change in the participants, change in the situation.

SPECIAL ISSUE WORD LENGTH AND COMPOSITION

Each article for the special issue of the journal should be no longer than 8000 words in length. Commissioned guest editors must ensure that their special issue does not exceed this word count. A special issue normally comprises the editorial and a collection of original research articles based on the theme that the issue wishes to explore under the guidance of the guest editor for the special issue. Although the book review section is typically not part of the special issue, guest editors are welcome to include book reviews in their proposals.

TEMPLATE FOR FULL PROPOSALS

1. NAME, POSITION AND INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION

Please provide information for each prospective guest editor and specify the team's designated contact for correspondence.

2. ABSTRACT

Summarise in 300 words the title, topic, aims and scope of your proposed special issue.

3. THEMES

Elaborate on the main themes of the proposed special issue in detail.

4. RATIONALE

Provide a rationale for the special issue on the themes you are proposing, with adequate substantiation and justification.

5. POTENTIAL AUTHORS AND SUBMISSIONS

If you already have a list of potential contributors and submission titles in mind, please list these. If not, please indicate where the call for papers will be advertised and whom you might consider approaching to contribute to the special issue. Please consider including submissions from emerging scholars as well as leading scholars.

6. EDITORIAL CRITERIA

Please explain how you will evaluate the papers submitted to the special issue. The process for reviewing articles once submitted will be undertaken in consultation with the editorial committee of ERSC and assisted by the managing editor.

7. BOOK REVIEWS

Special issues can include book reviews that relate to the theme of the special issue. If you would like to include book reviews in your proposal, please provide an indication of possible or likely books that you could consider for review. This is, however, optional.

8. EXPERIENCE OF PUBLISHING AND EDITING ACTIVITIES

Please provide details of any relevant experience the prospective guest editors have in editorial and journal publishing. This includes serving as referees for journals and related publications, editing books, membership of editorial boards and any other relevant publishing experience. Where possible, please include any previous experience that the team has as authors, reviewers or members of the editorial board of ERSC.

A short CV (no more than 2 A4 pages in length) for each prospective guest editor must accompany the completed Template. The full proposal should be sent to the Editorial Committee (ERSC) who will make a final evaluation on whether the proposal is acceptable or not, or if revisions and further development of the proposal is required. In the latter case recommendations from the Editors will be provided.

Editorial team: Prof N.N. Mdzanga, Prof L. Athiemoolam, Prof D. Geduld.