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N=1 Article Writing Challenge

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By Matthew Wolf-Meyer

Are you up for a bit of a challenge? And interested in some professionalization advice testing? Do you want to see how quickly you can churn out a short article manuscript? Then you might be up for my inaugural summer break article writing challenge. Starting July 1st and ending July 14th, I'm asking people to read my series of blog posts on preparing article manuscripts and to provide me with feedback on their experience of following my advice. If you're interested, send me an [email](#) and let me know that you're on board.



Over the last several weeks, I've been posting a series of entries on my [blog](#) about the production of academic articles, largely intended for first-time article writers, but applicable to us all. Over six* steps, I discuss [identifying the right journal](#), [analyzing an appropriate model](#) to base your manuscript on, writing [introductions](#), [literature reviews](#), your [evidence](#), and [conclusion](#), and the final steps to [prepare the manuscript](#) for submission to a journal (but not in that order).

These posts grew out of an alternative spring break I've begun to offer for anthropology graduate students in the University of California system to spend a week talking about and concentrating on writing an article manuscript — a week-long event that has grown out of my ongoing professionalization workshop series (which you can read summaries of [here](#)). By inviting everyone everywhere to participate in this writing event, I'm hoping to gather feedback to add to and revise the Six Steps in future blog posts and professionalization events (which may be coming to a conference near you sometime soon).

As a means of thanking people for helping out in testing my advice, I'm collecting names and will facilitate peer review for those people ready for feedback by July 14th. That is, if you [email me](#) and let me know that you'll be participating, when your manuscript is complete, I'll email it to another participant so you can get a round of peer review in the revision process. Before you email me, take a few minutes and read about [publishing strategies](#) and [Step 1](#) and send me the name of the journal you're planning on targeting. As we collectively work through the Six Steps, you can either email me your feedback on each step, or respond to the steps in the comment sections of the relevant post.

I'm looking forward to the challenge, and hope you'll join me for it.

*It's actually 7 steps, but the first step — on publishing strategies — was published a long time ago.

AMA citation

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