Research Article Rubric

Manuscripts must contain **original** research.

**As primary research, development of the research article requires four stages: (Articles must contain all 4)**

1. Problem formulation—which topic or field is being examined and what are its component issues?
2. Literature search—finding materials relevant to the subject being explored
3. Data evaluation—determining which literature makes a significant contribution to the understanding of the topic
4. Analysis and interpretation—discussing the findings and conclusions of pertinent literature

**Research Articles must comprise the following elements: (Articles must contain all 5)**

1. Clearly defined research question/hypothesis
2. Comprehensive literature review
3. A defined Quantitative or Qualitative research methodology design with a supporting literature review of the selected methodology.
4. A definable data set produced by the selected research design and from which the conclusions are based
5. A detailed conclusion with recommendations for further research

**In assessing each piece, consideration should be given to:**

1. Provenance— what are the author's credentials? Are the author's arguments supported by evidence (e.g. primary historical material, case studies, narratives, statistics, and recent scientific findings)?
2. Objectivity— is the author's perspective even-handed or prejudicial? Is contrary data considered or is certain pertinent information ignored to prove the author's point?
3. Persuasiveness— which of the author's theses are most/least convincing?
4. Value— are the author's arguments and conclusions convincing? Does the work ultimately contribute in any significant way to an understanding of the subject?

**This type of article presents new *primary* scholarship.**