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Journal of Contemporary Research in Education



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The mission of JCRE is to disseminate original research, empirical or theoretical in nature, which involves the application of current philosophy, theory, and practice to address issues of social importance. While the journal will focus on research with the intent of improving the human condition, manuscripts addressing all aspects of the field of education, school-based and non school-based alike, will be considered. JCRE is strongly committed to making the research findings of its authors accessible to all constituencies in the field of education.

JCRE is a peer-reviewed publication sponsored by the School of Education at the University of Mississippi. Published 3 times annually, in August, December, and April, JCRE disseminates research which is judged to be clear and purposeful, with significant implications for positive changes in the field of education.

Manuscript Preparation. Manuscripts should be prepared according to the guidelines set forth in the 6th edition of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (APA), should be approximately 15-25 pages in length, and must be accompanied by an abstract no longer than 200 words. A short biography of 2-3 sentences per author is requested. Manuscripts should be formatted for 8 ½" x 11" paper with 1" margins on all sides, and double-spaced using 12-point type. Manuscript files, and any accompanying files, should be in MS Word format: PDFs will not be accepted.

Manuscript Submission. Email an electronic copy of your manuscript and a cover letter to gauthier@olemiss.edu. Please do not remove all names and other information from the manuscript which could potentially identify the author(s). The cover letter should contain the name(s) of the author(s), institutional affiliation(s), and contact information (email, phone number, address). The cover letter should also include a statement explicitly indicating that the manuscript has not been published, or is not under consideration, elsewhere.

Manuscript Review. Manuscripts submitted to JCRE for consideration are first reviewed internally by the editors. Those conforming to the initial review criteria and fulfilling the mission of JCRE will be submitted for external peer review. The criteria for judging the manuscripts include: (a) significance of research and/or theoretical contribution, (b) appropriateness of the research methodology, (c) clarity of the writing, (d) adherence to the guidelines set forth in the 6th edition of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (APA). Manuscripts meeting the criteria will be reviewed by at least two peers, a process that lasts from 6 -12 weeks.

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FORWARD

It is a pleasure for me to write this Forward for the inaugural issue of the *Journal of Contemporary Research in Education*. This journal is the result of a collaborative effort of the leadership of the University of Mississippi School of Education, the faculty members who provided input into the organization, format, and Mission of the journal during its initial phases, and the Editorial Review Board who have provided their valuable time to serve the profession.

This issue contains six articles ranging from data-based investigations to philosophical perspectives within the field of education. While the articles differ greatly in their content and orientation, all reflect the Mission of the *Journal of Contemporary Research in Education* and the perspectives of those who serve in both editorial and review capacities, to provide a platform for scholarly work which involves “the application of current philosophy, theory, and practice to address issues of social importance.” Indeed, each of the articles contained herein addresses issues which have significant implications for our society and schools. This is our goal and vision for the *Journal of Contemporary Research in Education*.

J.M. Blackburn, Co-Editor