General Submission Guidelines

Immersion programmes are school-based, subject-matter driven programmes that aim for academic achievement, additive bilingualism and biliteracy (multilingualism/multiliteracy) and cultural pluralism through increased intercultural competence. They incorporate high language intensity (i.e., at least 50% of subject matter instruction through the medium of the “immersion” language). JICB targets a wide range of immersion/bilingual programmes including:

- second or foreign language immersion (e.g., Swedish immersion in Finland, French immersion in Canada, Mandarin Chinese immersion in the U.S., English immersion in Hong Kong)
- bilingual immersion (e.g., Korean/English “two-way” immersion programmes in the U.S., French/English programmes in Canada)
- double immersion programmes (e.g., French-Hebrew-English programs in Canada, English-Hebrew-Portuguese programmes in Brazil)
- developmental bilingual programmes (e.g., Spanish/English programmes in the U.S.)
- indigenous/aboriginal language immersion programmes that aim for language and culture revitalization (e.g., Māori immersion in New Zealand, Hawaiian immersion in the U.S.)
- immersion programmes in minority autochthonous languages (e.g., Irish immersion in Ireland, Basque immersion in Spain)

Content-based language education (non-immersion) is also subject-matter driven and includes, for example, language across the curriculum (LAC) initiatives at the post-secondary level, CLIL (content and language integrated learning) programmes, sheltered second language instruction [in English as a second language (ESL) programmes in the U.S., Australia, the UK, e.g.], language for specific purposes, and so on.

Audience Awareness and Methodological Rigor

The Journal of Immersion and Content-Based Language Education (JICB) is committed to publishing methodologically rigorous studies and theoretical discussions that advance knowledge in the field and are accessible and useful to a range of readers around the world.

As you prepare your manuscript, be aware that JICB readers have a variety of backgrounds and theoretical orientations. Thus, it is important to define terms with which some readers will not be familiar.

Regardless of methodological orientation, authors should position their study within a theoretical framework. They should present complete and precise information about the study’s research questions and/or hypotheses, research design, and data collection. They should identify measurement or coding systems used and, where this is available, include information about their reliability as established through previous studies. They should detail the study’s coding practices and provide information about interrater reliability. In general, findings from the data should be handled separately from the discussion and interpretation, including implications.

Authors of quantitative studies should relate the use of particular forms of descriptive and analytic statistics to the study itself and carefully consider best forms of presentation, including graphic
representation. The JICB has as an expectation that authors provide a measure of the effect size, at least for the major statistical information provided in quantitative studies. Effect size is a measure of the strength of the influence of an independent variable on a dependent variable irrespective of the sample size. Effect sizes are usually reported along with reports of statistical significance although they do not depend on “statistical significance.”

Authors of qualitative studies are expected to present rich descriptions of the naturally occurring data from diverse perspectives and illustrate these with well-selected examples. To assure the credibility, transferability, confirmability, and dependability of the research, such studies should present one or more forms of data triangulation.

Studies increasingly use both quantitative and qualitative data in order to be able to capture the complexity of language use, teaching, and learning. Therefore, authors of mixed methods studies are encouraged to observe the quality expectations associated with both research approaches.

All submissions to the JICB should consider specific pedagogical implications of the reported study.

**Author Guidelines**

1. Submissions must correspond to the focus and scope of the JICB. The JICB aims at publishing research on language immersion and other types of content-based language education programmes that are subject matter-driven and subject matter-accountable. Submissions that do not correspond to the scope of the journal will be returned to authors without review.

2. Submissions should be prepared according to the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (APA) 6th edition. Submissions that do not follow the APA style will be returned to authors without review. For questions about APA style, consult the APA website at http://www.apastyle.org.

3. Contributions must be in English. Spelling should be either American English or British English and should be consistent throughout the paper. If not written by a native speaker, it is advisable to have the paper checked by a native speaker prior to submission.

4. The JICB operates a double-blind peer review process. To facilitate this process, authors must ensure that all submissions, whether first or revised versions, are anonymised or blinded for review. All authors’ names should be substituted by ‘author’ throughout the manuscript, e.g. in references to the author’s own work (whether sole or co-authored), and publication dates by “XXXX”. For example:

   “It is believed that the less-than-optimal minority language proficiency developed in immersion programs is due in part to teachers’ tendency to focus on content with limited focus on language (Author, XXXX; Lyster, 2007).”

   “This finding is similar to results reported on a post-secondary immersion study showing that students with lower Spanish proficiency were excluded from social interactions with high proficient learners (Authors, XXXX).”

Likewise, in the list of references, the full citations should be replaced with “Author (XXXX)” in alphabetical order. For example:


Author. (XXXX).
If the manuscript is accepted for publication, authors are responsible for reinserting self-identifying citations and references when manuscripts are prepared for final submission.

5. For initial submission, authors should submit their MANUSCRIPT in electronic form in Word only, double-spaced with 3 cm/1 inch margins. All pages should be numbered. While submitting the manuscript, authors must provide a concise and informative title of the article; the name, affiliation, and address of each author; a self-contained abstract in English (100–150 words) that should not contain any undefined abbreviations or unspecified references, and five to eight keywords to be used for indexing purposes.

6. Submissions should clearly state the word count and be approximately 7,000 – 9,000 words long, including references, tables/figures.

7. Upon acceptance, the author will be requested to furnish the FINAL VERSION in electronic form (Word). Tables and Figures should be inserted in the manuscript at this point in the location where they should appear in the published article. Tables and Figures should be in Word format rather than images.

8. Authors are responsible for observing copyright laws when quoting or reproducing material. The copyright of articles published in the JICB is held by the publisher. Permission for the author to use the article elsewhere will be granted by the publisher provided full acknowledgement is given to the source.

9. Authors should provide the final version of the 100–150 word abstract in English and at least one other language. Abstracts in languages other than English will appear at the end of the article.

10. Papers should be reasonably divided into sections and, if appropriate, subsections. The headings of these subsections should be numbered in Arabic numerals (1. Text Bold; 1.1 text not bold; 1.1.1 Text Italics). Authors are advised not to use more than three levels of displayed headings and not to use sub headings unless there is more than one per level.

11. Line drawings (FIGURES) should be submitted as reproducible originals. They should be numbered consecutively, and appropriate captions should be provided. Reference to any Figures should be given in the appropriate place where they should appear.

12. TABLES should be numbered consecutively and should be referred to in the main text. Tables should be created with Word’s table function, not as spreadsheets.

13. Notes should appear as FOOTNOTES and should be concise, kept to a minimum, and numbered consecutively throughout the paper.

14. REFERENCES in the text should be formatted according to APA style. Below are some examples. For a more complete set of referencing guidelines, consult Purdue University’s summary of APA style at https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/.

A Work by Two Authors: Name both authors in the signal phrase or in the parentheses each time you cite the work. Use the word “and” between the authors’ names within the text and use the ampersand (&) in the parentheses.

Research by Wegener and Petty (1994) supports...

Research supports.... (Wegener & Petty, 1994)
A Work by Three to Five Authors: List all the authors in the signal phrase or in parentheses the first time you cite the source.

(Kernis, Cornell, Sun, Berry, & Harlow, 1993)

In subsequent citations, only use the first author’s last name followed by “et al.” in the signal phrase or in parentheses.

(Kernis et al., 1993)

In et al., al. is followed by a period, but et is not.

Six or More Authors: Use the first author’s name followed by et al. in the signal phrase or in parentheses.

Harris et al. (2001) argued...

(Two or More Works in the Same Parentheses: When your parenthetical citation includes two or more works, order them the same way they appear in the reference list, separated by a semi-colon. That means that they should appear in alphabetical, not chronological order.

(Berndt, 2002; Harlow, 1983)

Authors With the Same Last Name: To prevent confusion, use first initials with the last names.

(E. Johnson, 2001; L. Johnson, 1998)

Two or More Works by the Same Author in the Same Year: If you have two sources by the same author in the same year, use lower-case letters (a, b, c) with the year to order the entries in the reference list. Use the lower-case letters with the year in the in-text citation.

Research by Berndt (1981a) illustrated that...

Book (monograph):


Unpublished dissertation or master’s thesis:


Book (edited volume):


Chapter (in book):

Articles (in journal):

With DOI:


When DOI is not available, place the URL between angle brackets (e.g., <https://...>):


Electronic, online sources:

When referring to online sources, place the URL between angle brackets (e.g., <https://...>):


15. Authors are kindly requested to check their manuscripts very carefully before submission in order to avoid delays in publication. The first author will receive a PDF file with page proofs for final correction. One set must be returned with corrections by the dates determined by the publication schedule. Any author’s alterations other than typographical corrections in the page proofs may be charged to the author.

16. Authors whose work is accepted for publication are encouraged to submit an extended summary of the article to be published in a language other than English, to be made available at the *JICB* website. Authors are responsible for all language checking and for creating abstracts and extended summaries in languages other than English.

17. Authors of main articles will receive a complimentary copy of the issue in which their paper appears.

18. Manuscripts should be submitted through the journal’s online submission and manuscript tracking site: http://www.editorialmanager.com/jicb/. Please consult the Short Guide to EM for Authors (http://www.benjamins.com/#authors/journalsubmissions) before submitting the manuscript.

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