

# Call for Papers

## “Research Syntheses in Educational Psychology – Current Topics and Methodological Advances”

A Topical Issue of the *Zeitschrift für Psychologie*

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### **Focus of the Topical Issue, Aims, and Scope**

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Due to intensive funding activities in recent decades (BMBF, 2007), a large number of primary studies have emerged in educational research that examine the phenomena of learning and teaching. Research syntheses (i.e., systematic reviews or meta-analyses) provide a thematically focused overview on the abundance of individual findings and have the potential to examine context conditions that offer limited variations in primary studies (e.g., age groups, countries, etc.). The analysis of heterogeneity in findings across studies can be considered as one strong advantage of meta-analysis. In this thematic issue, we are looking for original research syntheses in educational psychology that not only provide an overview on current topics of educational research but also apply theoretically driven moderator analyses to investigate the variability of effect sizes across studies.

Moreover, in educational research, complex study designs (e.g., multilevel analysis, structural equation models, longitudinal designs) aim to address the multitude of possible influences in learning and teaching, calling for meta-analytic methods, such as network meta-analysis, MASEM, or individual participant data meta-analysis (IPD). Thus, this thematic issue aims at both original research synthesis and methodological studies that propose a careful analysis of effect sizes based on study designs not necessarily focusing on RCTs.

In addition, the thematic issue welcomes studies that apply machine learning approaches when conducting a research synthesis and assess their reliability and validity. Finally, although recently emerging, we would appreciate original research syntheses that present a community-augmented meta-analysis in educational research for this thematic issue.

### **How to Submit**

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There is a two-stage submission process. Initially, interested authors are requested to submit a structured abstract of their proposed papers. Authors of the selected abstracts will thereafter be invited to submit full papers. All papers will undergo blind peer review.

### **Stage 1: Structured Abstract Submission**

Authors interested in this special issue must submit a structured abstract of the planned manuscript before submitting a full paper. The goal is to provide authors with prompt feedback regarding the suitability and relevance of the planned manuscript to the special issue.

**The deadline for submitting structured abstracts is  
April 15, 2024.**

Feedback on whether or not the editors encourage authors to submit a full paper will be guaranteed by May 15, 2024.

### Submission Guidelines for Structured Abstracts

Structured abstracts should be within four pages and may encompass information on each of the following headings: (a) Background, (b) Objectives, (c) Research Question(s) and/or Hypothesis/es, (d) Method/Approach, (e) Results/Findings, and (f) Conclusions and Implications (expected).

Structured abstracts should be submitted by e-mail to the guest editor Tanja Burgard (tb@leibniz-psychology.org).

### Stage 2: Full Paper Submission

The full papers must be submitted through the online submission system of the journal Editorial Manager at <https://www.editorialmanager.com/zfp/default.aspx>

For those who have been encouraged to submit a full paper,

**the deadline for submission of manuscripts is  
August 15, 2024.**

Full manuscripts will undergo a blind peer-review process.

### Submission Guidelines for Full Papers

- Only English language submissions can be considered.
- Contributions must be original (not published previously or currently under review for publication elsewhere).
- Review and original articles should not exceed 45,000 characters and spaces in length, including references, figures, and tables (allowances for figures and tables should be deducted on the basis of size: approximately 1,250 characters for a quarter-page figure/table).
- All research syntheses should adhere to the meta-analytic reporting standards (MARS) proposed by the APA (<http://www.apa.org/pubs/authors/jars.pdf>). Additionally, authors should include a statement in accordance with the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) statement (<http://www.prisma-statement.org>) as a supplemental file for review.

- Other submission formats (short reports, research summaries, opinion pieces, etc.) are also considered; please contact the editors for details.
- Reference citations in the text and in the reference list should be in accordance with the principles set out in the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.).
- Supplementary material must be made available through PsychArchives: <https://www.psycharchives.org/>
- See also any recent issue of the journal.

For detailed author guidelines, please see the journal's website at [www.hogrefe.com/j/zfp/](http://www.hogrefe.com/j/zfp/)

### Timeline

- **April 15, 2024:** Abstract submissions due
- **May 15, 2024:** Feedback to authors
- **August 15, 2024:** Full paper submissions due
- **October 15, 2024:** Feedback to authors of full paper submissions due
- **November 15, 2024:** Revised manuscripts due
- **November 30, 2024:** Editorial decision on acceptance/refusal of revised papers due
- **Issue 2 (2025):** Publication of topical issue

### About the Journal

The *Zeitschrift für Psychologie*, founded in 1890, is the oldest psychology journal in Europe and the second oldest in the world. One of the founding editors was Hermann Ebbinghaus. Since 2007, it is published in English and devoted to publishing topical issues that provide state-of-the-art reviews of current research in psychology. For more detailed information about the journal, please visit the official website at <http://www.hgf.io/zfp>.