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Himmelfarb Library Liaison Letters

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## **Himmelfarb Library Liaison Letter - February 2022**

George Washington University, Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library

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February 2022

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Putting together your first publication can seem like an overwhelming task. How do you select a journal? Who should be the first author? How do you ensure that your manuscript is formatted correctly? Should you consider publishing in an Open Access (OA) format? The Himmelfarb Library has a few tips and resources to help get you started:

- **Target your Journal Search:** If you are unsure of where to publish your research, start by looking at your references. Do some journals appear repeatedly in your reference list? In addition to your references, resources such as the [Clarivate Match Manuscript tool](#), the [Journal Citation Reports](#) database, and the [JANE Journal/Author Name Estimator](#) can help provide information on journals in your field. Video tutorials on some of these tools can be found in Himmelfarb's [Scholarly Communications Short Video Library](#).
- **Establish the order of authors:** If you are working on a publication with other researchers, determining authorship order early on is an essential part of the process. If you are unsure of how to determine authorship order, APA's [A Graduate Student's Guide to Determining Authorship Credit and Authorship Order](#) as well as the [CRedit taxonomy](#) can help. Also check out our video tutorial entitled "[Give CREDIT](#)."
- **Ensure that any needed copyright permissions have been secured:** Not securing the appropriate permissions for copyright-protected materials can

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- **Ensure that your citations are formatted correctly:** Be sure to review the formatting guidelines for your selected journal and utilize the appropriate citation format. Himmelfarb's guides to [APA](#) and [AMA](#) citation styles can help or you can also use a citation manager such as [RefWorks](#). If you need to change the citation style of your references to adhere to formatting requirements, see our tutorial on [quickly changing citation styles](#).
- **Publish Open Access (OA) if possible:** Open Access publishing can be a great way to ensure that your publication gets wide readership. However, many journals require expensive Article Processing Charges or APCs to publish research in an open access format and most departments do not have the resources to cover these fees. If you are working on a Case Report, consider utilizing the [GW Institutional Fellowship with BMJ Case Reports](#) or explore our new [Cambridge Read and Publish Agreement](#) (contact Ruth Bueter at [rbueter@gwu.edu](mailto:rbueter@gwu.edu)). If you do not have the funding to cover APCs, explore the possibility of archiving an author's version of the manuscript in a repository. See Himmelfarb's "[Open Access and Your Research](#)" tutorial for more information.
- **Promote your article once it has been published:** Putting together your first publication is a labor intensive process. Fortunately there are things that you can do to ensure that your article is widely read! See our video tutorial on "[Promoting Your Research](#)" and be sure to include a link to your publication on your CV.
- **Start a new research project!:** The good news is that the publication process is generally much easier the second time around! See our guide on [Resources for Early Career Researchers](#) for more information about resources related to the research process.

If you have additional questions about your first publication, feel free to reach out to Sara Hoover, Metadata and Scholarly Publishing Librarian at [shoover@gwu.edu](mailto:shoover@gwu.edu) or use the "Ask us" tab on the Himmelfarb Library website.

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- Reference questions? Call 202-994-2850 or email us at [himmelfarb@gwu.edu](mailto:himmelfarb@gwu.edu)
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