Qapsule Article Writing Guide: Critical Reviews

Purpose
- Review a relevant and interesting health sciences topic.
- Begin with a broad overview, provide context, and state review objectives.
- Emphasize aspects of personal interest.
- Body includes well-balanced and thoughtful critical analysis of current research.
- Critique research for strengths, drawbacks, and limitations.
- Subsequent discussion of implications for the respective field.

Can I submit my thesis paper?
- Thesis paper are acceptable for submission if modified to satisfy the content and word count requirements outlined in this document.

Can I submit my course work?
- Yes, you can submit your coursework. Queens students have rights to their own intellectual property, meaning the work you create is yours to submit.
- Please adapt the work to meet specific Qapsule submission requirements such as word count limits, AMA referencing and formatting etc.
- *Modification for Anonymity:* Alter the coursework so it is not recognizable as a course assignment by other students.
- Remove references from course modules/content, with an option to replace them with high-quality external sources conveying similar information.
- Develop a title that is interesting, unique, and distinct from typical course assignment titles.

Audience
- The intended readers of a t article are primarily the general student body.
- It's crucial to ensure that the article is written in a way that is clear, coherent, and easily comprehensible to individuals who may not have any prior exposure to the specific field or research being discussed.

Peer-review process
- When submitting, please include the contact details of 2-3 individuals with expertise in the relevant field who could potentially assess your article. These expert reviewers should hold senior positions as graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, or professors.
- The reviewer may not be required to have an affiliation with Queen's University, and it's not obligatory for the author to have prior professional interactions or familiarity with the reviewer.

Word Limit
- 1,500 to 2,000 words
- World limit does not including abstract, figure captions, references, and acknowledgements

What to Include in a Critical Review Article:

Title of the Article
- 100 character limit
- Please create an engaging and brief title for your submission. Avoid incorporating numbers, abbreviations, or acronyms in the titles.

Author's Academic Program
- Below the author's name(s), specify their academic program, including any specialization, and graduation class.

> ***For example***
> John Smith
> Honours Cell Biology, Class of 2025

Abstract
- The abstract should not exceed 200 words.
- Short summary of article content.
- Purpose and significance of the review.
- Summary of review methodology (if applicable).
- Most salient findings of the review.

Introduction
- Begin with a broad approach to set the research context.
- Discuss background information relevant to the research area.
- Include the context and objectives of the review.

Review Findings
- Thorough discussion and analysis of selected research.
- Focus on review objectives.
- Considerations:
    - Influence on the health field.
    - Identification of research gaps.
    - Evaluation of data sources (e.g., case studies vs. randomized controlled trials).
- For systematic reviews:
    - Concentration on results.
    - Potential inclusion of a summary table.
    - Quality appraisal of included studies.

Discussion (optional)
- Interpret and explain the findings.
- Discuss the overall significance and implications for the field.
- Consider incorporating primary data, graphics, or diagrams for clarity.

Conclusion
- Interpretation of review results.
- Discussion of significance and implications for the relevant field of study.

Acknowledgements (optional)
- Optional section.
- Express gratitude to individuals or organizations not listed as authors but who contributed to the manuscript.

In-Text Citations (AMA Style)
- Use numerical superscript endnotes for in-text citations.
- Endnotes refer to a numbered reference list at the article's end.
- References are numbered sequentially as they appear in the text, figures, and tables.
- Each reference corresponds to one number.
- Place superscript numbers after punctuation (e.g., periods, commas).

Reference List
- List references numerically in the order used in-text.
- Include additional resources not cited in-text.
- Use only peer-reviewed journal articles as references.
- Emphasize primary research articles over reviews.

Figures and Tables:
- Include relevant images, tables, or graphs.
- Refer to them in the text using "see Figure X."
- Label figures with a number, title, and caption.
- Maximum of four figures
- If adapted from another source, reference using AMA Citation style.
- Note that figures may be re-composed for copyright reasons.

Figure and Table Captions:
- Captions provide brief descriptions of labeled components.
- Follow AMA style for in-text citations within captions.
- Place figure captions below figures and table captions above tables.
- Tables have their own numbering sequence (e.g., "TABLE 1" instead of "FIGURE 1").

FIGURE 1: Image of Amyloid Plaques in Alzheimer's Disease. Amyloid plaques are abnormal protein deposits found in the brains of individuals with Alzheimer's disease. These plaques are associated with the progression of cognitive decline and memory loss in affected patients.[1]

Standard Qapsule formatting protocol

It is expected that you ensure that your manuscript meets these requirements prior to submission to be considered.

Text Style
- Page number, starting at 1 on the title page, in upper right-hand corner.
- Text is double-spaced.
- Body text: Size 12.
- Headings: Size 15 **BOLD**
- Subheadings: Size 14 **BOLD**
- 12-point Times New Roman or other serif type font.
- 1" margins and ½" paragraph indentations.
- Encourage using section headings for organization and flow, with bolded and concise headings.
- Include your name, program, date, and title in the header on each page.

Language and Spelling
- Write all articles in English with Canadian spelling.
- Acronyms and Abbreviations:
- Define acronyms and abbreviations in brackets the first time they appear.
- Use defined acronyms and abbreviations for subsequent occurrences.

Scientific Conventions
- Follow appropriate scientific conventions in your field.
- For example, italicize names of bacteria, and use a black background for protein structure figures with proper reference to a Protein Data Bank (PDB) ID number.

Acronyms and Abbreviations
- Define acronyms and abbreviations in brackets the first time they appear.
- Use defined acronyms and abbreviations for subsequent occurrences.

Units
- Use the metric unit system.
- Leave a space before units (e.g., "45 mm, 30 m/s," not "30m/s").

Numbers
- Write numbers below 10 as words (e.g., "five").
- Write numbers 10 and above numerically (e.g., "25").

Quotations
- Use double quotation marks (" ") for in-text quotations.
- Properly reference quotations.