

Submission Guidelines

Submitting Papers: Papers should be submitted as PDFs. Send submissions or questions to observationalstudies@gmail.com . For submissions, no fancy cover letter is needed; an e-mail is sufficient.

Preparing Papers and LaTeX Template: Authors using LaTeX are encouraged to use the template [sample.tex](#). Authors should download the style file [obs_study_style.sty](#) into the same directory as the template file. A sample bibtex file is available, [sample.bib](#).

Although submissions do not need to be created using LaTeX, all published papers will need to be converted to LaTeX. If using Word or LibreOffice to create your submission, please do not make equations images as this will make it difficult to convert to LaTeX. The editor will work with the authors of accepted papers to convert Word or LibreOffice files to LaTeX, but if excessive work is required, the editor will have to ask the author to contract a professional service to convert the file.

Reference Style: Citations within the text should include the author's last name and year, for example (Cheeseman and Carrotwoman, 1992). Append lower-case letters to the year in case of ambiguity, as in (Cheeseman, 1993a). References in the text should be ordered by author's surname and publication date. In publications by three or more authors, all are listed the first time, and first author et al. used subsequently. In publications with more than six authors, first author et al. is used throughout.

The recommended citation style file natbib, is included in obs_study.sty. It supports citations with macros such as `\citep{}` and `\citet{}`. The basic uses of `\citep{}` and `\citet{}` are as follows:

<code>\citet{jon90}</code>	=> Jones et al. (1990)
<code>\citet[chap.~2]{jon90}</code>	=> Jones et al. (1990, chap. 2)
<code>\citep{jon90}</code>	=> (Jones et al., 1990)
<code>\citep[chap.~2]{jon90}</code>	=> (Jones et al., 1990, chap. 2)
<code>\citep[see][]{jon90}</code>	=> (see Jones et al., 1990)
<code>\citep[see][chap.~2]{jon90}</code>	=> (see Jones et al., 1990, chap. 2)
<code>\citet*{jon90}</code>	=> Jones, Baker, and Williams (1990)
<code>\citep*{jon90}</code>	=> (Jones, Baker, and Williams, 1990)

For details on making citations with natbib macros, see the natbib documentation (Patrick W. Daly. Natural sciences citations and references. Available electronically at <ftp://ftp.freeware.com/pub/tex/ctan/macros/contrib/supported/natbib>).

Examples of the citation style are the following:

Asimov, I. (1951). *Foundation*. Gnome Press, New York.

Cochran, W.G. (1965). The planning of observational studies of human populations. *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society. Series A (General)*, 128(2):234–266.