

## 1. Format and general guidelines

This assignment must follow the standard manuscript format and be prepared using the template provided on the course website.

The manuscript text should be prepared in English and have a maximum of 7 pages (including abstract and references). The corresponding author (one student from the group) should submit the article online until the deadline, sending it by email to [decarvalhobueno@gmail.com](mailto:decarvalhobueno@gmail.com). All manuscripts must contain the essential elements needed to convey your manuscript, for example, Abstract, Keywords, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, and Conclusion.

The initial submission requires only the manuscript text, whilst for the resubmission, the student must submit the revised manuscript with a response to reviews letter (see examples on the Internet). If your article includes any videos and/or other Supplementary material, this should be included in your initial submission for peer review purposes. However, this material should not contain essential information to understand the main findings of the paper.

After the initial submission, the manuscript will be reviewed and graded.

Status	Grade
Accepted	> 95
Minor revision.	80 – 95
Major revision	40 – 80
Rejected	< 40

If the manuscript is accepted or rejected, the peer review process ends, and you will not be able to modify the manuscript to get a better grade (or lower). If the manuscript requires major or minor revisions, the peer review process is reopened. The authors will have addition time to submit the revised manuscript with the response letter to review, in which the authors should address all points made by the reviewer(s), including the responses to all comments, and list the changes made to the manuscript. After this point, the manuscript will be reevaluated. The initial grade can vary by  $\pm 20\%$  (e.g. if you get 70 in the first submission, the final grade can vary from 56 to 84), depending on the quality of the revised submission (revised manuscript + response letter).

*You will not have access to your mark during the whole peer review process; only you will have access to the 'editor' decision (manuscript status).*

## 2. Preparing the Article File

All manuscripts must follow these guidelines. You can use this list to carry out a final check of your submission before your submission.

**Manuscript length:** Considering a 6-page manuscript, we recommend a structure like this: 1) Introduction: 0.5 page; 2) Methods: 1 page; 3) Results: 2 pages; 4) Discussion: 2 pages; Conclusion: 0.5 page.

**Title:** Concise and informative. Avoid abbreviations and formulae where possible.

**Authors' names:** Clearly indicate the given name(s) and family name(s) of each author. The authors' affiliation addresses (where the actual work was done) are below the names, including the e-mail address of each author.

**Corresponding author:** Clearly indicate who will handle first and revised submissions.

**Abstract:** Abstracts are mandatory and should be a maximum of 300 words long (1 single paragraph). The abstract should briefly state the purpose of the research, the main results, and the

main conclusions (references and abbreviations should be avoided). Immediately after the abstract, provide 3 keywords.

**Introduction:** should be as concise as possible, without subheadings. Defining the objectives of the work and providing an adequate background, avoiding a detailed literature survey or a summary of the results.

**Materials and methods:** These should be sufficiently detailed to allow experiments to be reproduced. Methods that have already been published should be summarized and indicated by a reference.

**Results and Discussion:** This is the most important part of the manuscript, and we are explanatory. The results should be clear and concise with appropriate references and could be combined with a discussion section. We recommend organizing the results/discussion sections into subheadings.

**Conclusions:** The main conclusions of the study can be presented in a short section on the conclusions.

**Figures:** Ensure that each illustration has a caption and is referenced in the text. A caption should comprise a brief title (**not** on the figure itself) and a description of the illustration explaining all the symbols and abbreviations used.

**Tables:** Please submit tables as editable text and not as images. **Be careful in using tables** and ensure that the data presented in them do not duplicate the results described elsewhere in the article.