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Include the following sections: [Summary](#), [Keywords](#), [Main Essay](#), [Further Reading](#) (optional), and [References](#).

Your article should present a narrative overview of the full scope of your topic. It should be written for scientists, scholars, and university-level readers, including advanced undergraduates, graduate students, practitioners, and researchers within your field and adjacent fields, who are seeking an entry point to the topic at hand. It should provide a balanced, synthetic summary of key topics and their development over time, and include key important contributions and contributors, debates, and controversies. The article should be oriented globally, reflecting international and/or non-English-language scholarship or research where possible. Note that the Oxford Research Encyclopedia is not a journal, and articles are not intended to be research-driven reviews.

Be original. Oxford Research Encyclopedia only publishes new, previously unpublished articles. Avoid reproducing text or commentary—even your own—which has already appeared or been published elsewhere.

Think long-term. Do not engage with anything that is obviously ephemeral and will cause your article to date very quickly. You should exercise judgment on what controversies within the discipline will look like mere “flashes in the pan” five or ten years on. While it is not necessary to avoid these altogether, be cautious to not overstate their significance or unduly devote too much space to them.

Length and scope. Your article should be 6,000-10,000 words in length, including Summary, Keywords, Main Essay, and References. Limit the use of jargon and abbreviations, and define uncommon technical terms.

Title. Your article title is listed on your contract. If you would like to suggest a new one, please confer with your OUP editor.

Your reader. Assume that the reader has a high level of scientific literacy and has some knowledge in the field of physics, but is a non-expert in the area at hand. They are likely to be reading your article as an entry point to the topic. Avoid jargon where possible, and explain specialized terms.

Article Summary and Keywords

Please submit your article summary within one month of article assignment, before submitting your completed article. You may submit any revisions to your summary when you submit your full article.

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Keywords

Please suggest 5-10 keywords that describe the content of your article. Keywords will ensure your article is searchable and discoverable online. Keywords are equivalent to terms in an index in a printed work.

Main Essay

Each article should present an overview of the full scope of a topic, its animating factors, and its developmental arc. Discuss the observational, theoretical, and experimental techniques used on the phenomena of focus. Assume that the reader has a high level of scientific literacy, but is a non-expert in the area at hand. They are likely to be reading your article as an entry point to the topic. Be sure to avoid jargon, and explain specialized terms. Article structure can be devised in this fashion:

Introductory Paragraphs (400 – 500 words)

- Define the topic you will cover and why.
- Outline the areas of science that inform your work. Note how this work fits in the larger context of physics.

Part One (2500 – 3500 words)

- Chart our understanding of the topic as it has developed over time: consider when and how the topic appeared and then took on its current form.
- Provide balanced coverage of the context, the controversies, and the debates that have informed and helped to form the topic, and that animate it now.
- Discuss foundational and notable discoveries or advances and those who made them within their context and current perspectives; include biographical details as needed.

Part Two (3500 – 4500 words)

- Present the current state of the science, discipline or areas of study that your article focuses on, including strengths and weaknesses. Include observational, theoretical and experimental techniques used.
- Refer to work in as many other countries as is sensible.

Conclusion (400 – 500 words)

- Draw together significant conclusions that assess the field, including strengths and weaknesses.
- Conclude with your judgment on what significant questions remain, are being pursued, or should be pursued.

Further Reading

This section should be a list of the first 10-25 readings to which you would direct a student who wanted to read more deeply on this topic. These sources may, but need not be, cited in the text. This section is optional.

References and Notes

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Please number all equations.

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- Do not reference yourself directly or use first-person pronouns (e.g., “I believe...” or “...as we will see...”).
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Headings and subheadings should be numbered. They should be concise, consistently formatted, and clearly identifiable. This means all first-level headings should be formatted the same way, all second-level headings should be formatted the same way and differently from first-level headings, and so on. Use no more than four levels of headings.

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