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Experience with an online course on peer review and open publishing

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# The course

Peer review and open publishing pilot course for African researchers



Peer review and open publishing

How to review journal articles, modern methods of open peer review and preprints.

- The challenges of peer review
- How to review a journal article
- Open reviewing and publishing
- AI and the review process
- Experience with preprints and open reviews



# Two parts

## **Part 1: Peer review:**

The challenges of peer review

How to review a journal article

Performing a peer review

## **Part 2: Publishing preprints and open reviews**

Open reviewing and publishing

Case study



# In each section

## **Resources**

Open access – links and downloads

Included resources from PREreview

Access to preprint server EdArXiv

## **Discussion forums**

## **Activities**

Posting a review (as an assignment in Part 2)

One Zoom session (in response to feedback after Part 1)

## **Certificate of completion**

# Participation in the pilot course

40 students	Nigeria 21; Zimbabwe 15; 1 each S Africa, Lebanon, Sudan, Yemen
Accessed the course	34
Downloaded some resources	18
Participated in discussions	16
Number of certificates gained	9

# Conclusions

- We have piloted an open access online course which covered the field of peer review and open publishing of relevance to the African setting
- There was disappointing commitment from the participants, although there was encouraging feedback from a number of students
- The course, with modifications based on this experience, could be used to build local capacity - with attention to selection of participants
- There is a case for Africa specific open publishing platforms