Writing Reproducible Reports and Articles with Quarto

Christopher T. Kenny Data-Driven Social Science

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Today's Plan

- What is Quarto?
- Including Text, Tables, and Figures
- Including Code
- Quarto Extensions
- Academic Websites
- Resources

- Publishing system based on Pandoc
 - Input a markdown document, render to anything supported by Pandoc
 - HTML, PDF, Word, Beamer, GFM, MediaWiki, etc.
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- Syntax builds on RMarkdown, but language agnostic
 - Existing .Rmd files and most Jupyter notebooks can be run by Quarto

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 - Existing .Rmd files and most Jupyter notebooks can be run by Quarto
- Reproducible system to combine code and text together

Rendering Behind-the-Scenes

What is Quarto?

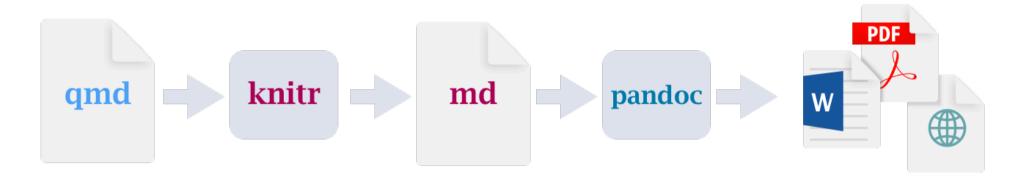


Figure from https://quarto.org/docs/faq/rmarkdown.html

The .qmd file

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- 1. YAML header
 - 1. Specify title, authors, and frontmatter
 - 2. Identify output type (e.g., PDF, PowerPoint, HTML)
 - 3. Style the document (e.g., pick fonts mainfont: Libre Franklin)
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 - 3. Style the document (e.g., pick fonts mainfont: Libre Franklin)
- 2. Body
 - 1. Contains text
 - 2. Include LaTeX equations x^2 becomes x^2
 - 3. Write code chunks in R, Python, Julia, Observable, etc.
 - 4. Include raw chunks with format-specific code (e.g., HTML or Typst blocks)

Why Quarto?

What is Quarto?

Common input format for many output types

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- Many journal templates for general and social sciences
 - Lowers the barrier on resubmitting elsewhere

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- Markdown formats work well with version control

- Articles: PDF (LaTeX, Typst), Word
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- Slides: Beamer, RevealJS, PowerPoint
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- Slides: Beamer, RevealJS, PowerPoint
- Websites: Dashboards, Static HTML, or Shiny
- Books: PDF and HTML
- All other formats supported by Pandoc (e.g., Wiki, Markdown, JATS, InDesign, ePub)

Selected academic journal templates

What is Quarto?

General science: Science, Nature, PNAS, PLOS

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- Major publishers: Taylor and Francis, Cambridge University Press, Springer, Elsevier
- Social sciences: Annual Reviews, APSR, BJPS, PA, PSRM, Perspectives, APA, and more

Including Text, Tables, and Figures

Writing 101 in Quarto

- Code blocks are fenced with backticks code becomes code

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- LaTeX math with \$math\$ for inline or \$\$math\$\$ for display
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- Reference citations with [@citation] for parenthetical or @citation for prose

Bibliographies Including Text, Tables, and

Figures

Quarto supports .bib/.bibtex, CSL .json/.yaml, and .ris bibliography files.

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- Can be styled with CSL for all formats
- Additional customization available for LaTeX: natbib, biber, biblatex
- Can also use Pandoc's implementation of CiteProc
 - Similar to the citation system in Word

Including figures

Including Text, Tables, and

Figures

Basic figures can be included with syntax:

![Caption](DDSS-stacked_PU_shield_black.png)



Figure 1: Caption

Figures

```
::: {#fig-subfig layout-ncol=2}
![A](DDSS-stacked_PU_shield_black.png)
![B](DDSS-stacked_PU_shield_black.png)
More Captions
:::
```







SOCIAL SCIENCE
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

(b) B

Figure 1: More Captions

Making a table

Including Text, Tables, and Figures

Tables use "pipe" syntax:

```
University Color
Princeton #E98338
Harvard #A51C30
Cornell #B31B1B
Brown #ED1C24
```

Red and orange university colors

Raw Content

Including Text, Tables, and

Figures

Raw content (e.g. HTML in a webpage) can be included with a special block:

```
```{=typst}
#set text(fill: blue)
Some example text.
```
```

Some example text.

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Including Code

Quarto supports code execution in multiple languages:

- R: Native support with knitr engine
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- Observable JS: Standalone support for interactive messages

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 - I have heard that this works surprisingly well!

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- Other languages: Any language with a Jupyter kernel (e.g., Stata)
 - I have heard that this works surprisingly well!
- Other languages: Custom support via knitr for select languages (e.g., rust via rextendr)

Including Code

Control code chunk behavior with options:

- #| echo: false Hide code, show output only

- •
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Including Code

Control code chunk behavior with options:

```
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```
• #| eval: false - Show code but don't run it
```

•

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Including Code

Control code chunk behavior with options:

- #| echo: false Hide code, show output only
- #| eval: false Show code but don't run it
- #| warning: false/message: false-Suppress R warnings/messages
- •
- •
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Including Code

Control code chunk behavior with options:

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- #| eval: false Show code but don't run it
- #| warning: false/message: false-Suppress R warnings/messages
- #| fig-width: 8/#| fig-height: 6 Control figure dimensions
- •
- •

Including Code

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- #| fig-width: 8/#| fig-height: 6 Control figure dimensions
- #| label: fig-myplot Add cross-reference labels

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- #| fig-width: 8 / #| fig-height: 6 Control figure dimensions
- #| label: fig-myplot Add cross-reference labels
- #| cache: true Cache expensive computations

Quarto Extensions

Extensions

Quarto Extensions

Extend Quarto's functionality with extensions:

- Formats: Custom output formats (e.g., journal templates, custom PDFs)
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- Shortcodes: Reusable content snippets ({{< video ... >}}, {{< include ... >}})
- Revealjs plugins: Enhanced slide presentations

Quarto Extensions

Centralized brand configurations

Define once, apply everywhere:

- Colors (primary, secondary, palettes)
- •
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Quarto Extensions

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Centralized brand configurations

Define once, apply everywhere:

- Colors (primary, secondary, palettes)
- Typography (fonts, sizes)
- Logos and images
- Apply across HTML, PDFs, slides, websites

Quarto Extensions

Example: christopherkenny/princeton-brand.yml

```
meta:
  name:
    full: Princeton University
    short: Princeton
  link:
    home: https://www.princeton.edu/
    twitter: https://x.com/Princeton
    linkedin: https://www.linkedin.com/school/princeton-university/
    facebook: https://www.facebook.com/PrincetonU/
  founded: 1746
color:
  palette:
    princeton-orange: "#e98338"
```

```
deep-blue: "#092264"
typography:
  fonts:
    - family: "Princeton Monticello Display"
      source: file
      files:
        - path: https://drive.google.com/file/d/19HUJ52fQbbQtvuUKUV5h0hJtaf6
NJIUQ
          weight: regular
logo:
  images:
    primary:
      path: assets/PU mark.png
```

Quarto Extensions

- 1. Start with a preprint template: quarto use template christopherkenny/ctk-article
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.

Quarto Extensions

- 1. Start with a preprint template: quarto use template christopherkenny/ctk-article
- 2. Write the paper in Markdown with embedded code
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
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- 7
- 8.

Quarto Extensions

- 1. Start with a preprint template: quarto use template christopherkenny/ctk-article
- 2. Write the paper in Markdown with embedded code
- 3. Switch to a journal template: quarto use template quarto-journals/jss
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- 2. Write the paper in Markdown with embedded code
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- 6. Submit generated PDF (+ source files)
- **/**.
- 8.

Workflow for academic writing:

- 1. Start with a preprint template: quarto use template christopherkenny/ctk-article
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- 5. Render to PDF: quarto render manuscript.qmd
- 6. Submit generated PDF (+ source files)
- 7. Get desk rejected
- 8.

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Workflow for academic writing:

- Start with a preprint template: quarto use template christopherkenny/ctkarticle
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- 3. Switch to a journal template: quarto use template quarto-journals/jss
- 4. Add any journal-specific things to the header
- 5. Render to PDF: quarto render manuscript.qmd
- 6. Submit generated PDF (+ source files)
- 7. Get desk rejected
- 8. Reformat by importing next template quarto add template christopherkenny/nature

Quarto Extensions

How it all works: partial files

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- How it all works: partial files
- One core template file includes 4-15 subparts
 - Each subfile = a partial
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Quarto Extensions

- How it all works: partial files
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Quarto Extensions

- How it all works: partial files
- One core template file includes 4-15 subparts
 - Each subfile = a partial
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- Partials are broken into meaningful components
 - Title, abstract, figure formatting, etc

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- One core template file includes 4-15 subparts
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- Edit the partials you need, use the defaults for the rest
- Partials are broken into meaningful components
 - Title, abstract, figure formatting, etc
- Easy to use formats (e.g., Typst) have simple partials
- Complex formats (e.g., HTML, LaTeX, revealjs) break out more pieces

Academic Websites

Demo

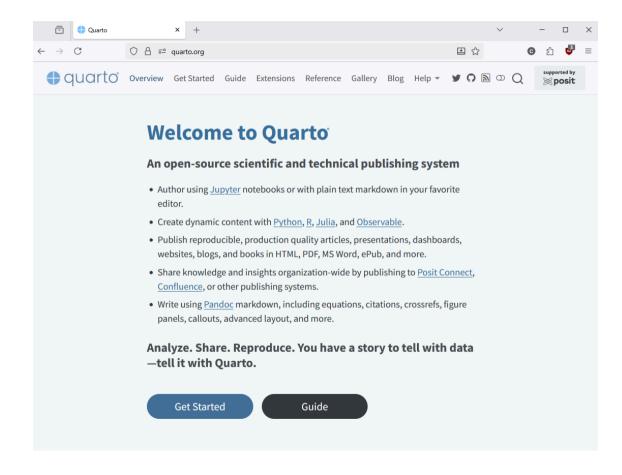
Academic Websites

quarto create project

Resources

Quarto Documentation

Resources



Extension Listings

Resources

Quarto Extensions

Extensions are a powerful way to modify and extend the behavior of Quarto. Below is a listing of available extensions (please <u>let us</u> know if you have an extension you'd like to see added to the list).

See the articles on Creating Extensions to learn how to develop your own extensions.











Resources

Using or making filters https://quarto.org/docs/extensions/filters.html

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Making your own extensions https://christophertkenny.com/posts/2023-07-01-creating-quarto-journal-articles/ and https://quarto.org/docs/extensions/

These Slides

Resources

Written in Quarto

These Slides

Resources

Written in Quarto

Using Typst + Polylux via christopherkenny/projector

These Slides Resources

Written in Quarto

Using Typst + Polylux via https://creativecommon

Source available:

https://github.com/christopherkenny/quarto-workshop-fall2025/blob/main/quarto-workshop-fall2025.qmd