

Mediterranean Studies

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Guidelines for Contributors

1. Mediterranean Studies is an international journal, focusing on the study of Mediterranean society and culture from antiquity to the present. While Mediterranean Studies is interdisciplinary, it is primarily a humanities journal. Articles come from the disciplines of history, art history, classics, philosophy, languages and literatures, religious studies, and cultural and intellectual history. Articles from social science disciplines address topics from the perspective of history.
2. Mediterranean Studies is a double-anonymous, peer-reviewed journal. All submissions are reviewed by at least two independent reviewers. It is published twice a year by Penn State University Press. Authors receive two copies free of charge. There is no deadline for submissions.
3. Submissions must be original and cannot have been published elsewhere. Translations of published articles are **not** accepted.
4. Submissions must be in English and should generally be no longer than 40 double-spaced typewritten pages (excluding notes). Please number your pages.
5. Submit your paper as a Word document, double-spaced throughout. Endnotes should be numbered consecutively, using Arabic numerals.

6. Papers should be submitted through Editorial Manager, using the following link:

<http://www.editorialmanager.com/ms/default.aspx>

or directly to the editor, Susan L. Rosenstreich, by email: susanrosenstreich@gmail.com

7. Please provide a short abstract (about 150 to 200 words) at the beginning of your article. Place it right after the title. Provide 3-5 keywords for your article. Place them after the abstract, but before the body of your paper.

8. Please leave your name off your manuscript and avoid any statement that would identify you as the author. Full details of identification should be restricted to the message accompanying your submission.

9. All quotations in other languages must be accompanied by English translations. Please attribute the translation, either to yourself or a named translator.

10. Since *Mediterranean Studies* is an interdisciplinary journal, please provide brief explanations for all technical and discipline-specific terms. Also, remember to provide sufficient background to your topic so that scholars from outside your discipline will be able to follow your argument.

11. Illustrations must be supplied by the author and written permission for each figure must be secured. Authors need to supply high-resolution, digital images (300 dpi minimum, with at least 2.5 inches in width). Images should **not Inserted into MS Word File, but submitted as image files separately from the manuscript.**

12. Authors need to provide **alt text** to describe image content (for figures, charts, and tables) to ensure accessibility for individuals using screen readers. Please see the **PSU Press Alt Text Guide on page 12** for further information on writing alt text.

13. Authors have reviewed the submission checklist on **page 14** of this guide to ensure all submission directions have been followed.

14. Citations

- a) Manuscripts must consistently conform to the latest edition of The Chicago Manual of Style (CMS), using the author-date style.
- b) Citations of a single source should, whenever possible, be included parenthetically within the text. Example: “as John Watkins notes (Watkins 2002: 45).”
- a) Use endnotes for citations of two or more sources or for extended comments. Endnotes should be numbered consecutively, using arabic numerals. Use the following format for your endnotes: Author (Date: pages). Example: See the discussions of Rosenstreich (1998: 67) and Dursteler (2006: 237–42).

15. Works Cited

- a) In your Works Cited section, list all works in alphabetical order by author’s last name, according to the examples below. Place the date right after the author’s name, followed by the title and the publisher.
- b) If you have used a number of primary sources (such as archives, letters, or other unpublished documents), you may divide your Works Cited list into two parts (primary and secondary sources) or three parts (archival sources, published primary sources, and secondary sources).
- c) When listing two or more books by the same author, list them in chronological order from earliest to latest.
- d) If there are two or more works by the same author in the same year (such as an article by an author who has also edited the volume in which the article appears), distinguish them by lowercase letters, according to the examples below.

- e) If there are up to three authors or editors, write out all names, according to the examples below. If there are more than three authors, use et al. after the first name.
- f) If you are citing more than one paper from an edited volume, make a separate entry for the volume, and list the individual papers as follows: Author. Date. "Title of Article." In book name, editors names, page numbers, publisher name. Please see the examples below.
- g) For all other citation questions, please consult a recent issue of *Mediterranean Studies*.

Sample Works Cited Section

Archival Sources

ACA = Arxiu de la Corona d'Aragó

AHCB = Arxiu Històric de la Ciutat de Barcelona

Published Primary Sources

Bruniquer, Esteve. 1912. *Rúbriques de Bruniquer: Ceremonial dels magnífichs consellers y regiment de la Ciutat de Barcelona*. 5 vols. Impr. d'Henrich.

Capmany y de Montpalau, Antonio de. 1779; repr. 1961–63. *Memorias históricas sobre la marina, comercio y artes de la antigua ciudad de Barcelona*. Repr. Barcelona: Cámara oficial de comercio y navegación de Barcelona. Imprenta de D. Antonio de Sancha.

Garcia i Sanz, Arcadi, and Germà Colon, eds. 1981. *Llibre del consolat de mar*. R. Dalmau.

Secondary Sources

- Abulafia, David. 1994. *A Mediterranean Emporium: The Catalan Kingdom of Majorca*. Cambridge University Press.
- Abulafia, David. 2011. *The Great Sea: A Human History of the Mediterranean*. Oxford University Press.
- Ackerman-Lieberman, Phillip Isaac, and Arnold E. Franklin, eds. 2014. *Jews, Christians and Muslims in Medieval and Early Modern Times: A Festschrift in Honor of Mark R. Cohen*. Brill.
- Anatra, Bruno. 1984. "Dall'unificazione aragonese ai Savoia." In *La Sardegna medioevale e moderna*, edited by John Day, Bruno Anatra, and Lucetta Scaraffia, 191–663. UTET.
- Basso, Enrico. 1991. "Pirati e pirateria a Genova nel Quattrocento." *La storia dei Genovesi* 11: 327–52.
- Bensch, Stephen. 1995. *Barcelona and Its Rulers, 1096–1291*. Cambridge University Press.
- Benton, Lauren. 2005. "Legal Spaces of Empire: Piracy and the Origins of Ocean Regionalism." *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 47: 700–724.
- Braudel, Fernand. 1972–73. *The Mediterranean and the Mediterranean World in the Age of Philip II*. Translated by Siân Reynolds. 2 vols. Harper & Row.
- Burns, Robert Ignatius. 1984a. *Muslims, Christians, and Jews in the Crusader Kingdom of Valencia: Societies in Symbiosis*. Cambridge Iberian and Latin American Studies. Cambridge University Press.
- Burns, Robert Ignatius. 1984b. "Piracy: Islamic-Christian Interface in Conquered Valencia." In Burns (1984a), 109–25.
- Damluji, Salma Samar. 1992. "Zillj as Architectural Space." In Hedgecoe and Damluji, eds., 243–349.

Hedgecoe, John, and Selma Samar Damluji, eds. 1992. *Zillij: The Art of Moroccan Ceramics*.
Garnet Publishing.

Style

- Use single spaces flowing periods between sentences throughout the manuscript.
- Ellipses:
 - When omitting part of a sentence with an ellipsis, use three periods with a space before, in between and after (“ . . . and . . . “).
 - If the end of a sentence is omitted, use four periods, the first immediately following the text, and the following spaced as above.
 - Use a four-dot ellipsis if an entire sentence is omitted.
 - Do not use ellipses at the beginning or end of a quotation.
- Endnotes are used to elaborate on information presented in the article text, e.g. bibliographic information.
- Endnotes must be numbered consecutively throughout the article and be indicated by the superscript numerals following the punctuation.
- The endnote numbers at the end of the article should not be superscript text and should be a number followed by a period.
- All endnote entries must be double-spaced at the end of the article and must appear before references.
- If a source is cited in a particular endnote, the bibliographic information must be identical to that in the reference list.
- Automatic formatting is acceptable in endnotes.
- Citations:

- Manuscripts must consistently conform to the latest edition of The Chicago Manual of Style (CMS).
- Examples of reference citations for journal articles and books are shown below. For more examples and further guidelines, please check CMS.
- Books and journals in the text: Reference citations in the article must be enclosed in parentheses and listed chronologically.
- In the case of works by multiple authors, please list up to three authors; for more than three, please list only the first author, followed by et al., as exemplified below:
- (Poist and Alen 1999; Murphy 2000, 48–51; Pollan, Ward, and Burns 2007; Barnes et al. 2010).
- Books and journals in the reference list: References citing source materials must be listed at the end of the article and must include, in order, the following information:
- Journal: First author’s last name, first name, and Second author’s first name last name. Year of publication. “Title of Article.” Title of Journal volume no.: issue no.: page numbers. For example: Bischoff, G., S. Maertens, and W. Grimme. 2011. “Airline Pricing Strategies Versus Consumer Rights.” *Transportation Journal* 14: 3: 232–50.
- Books: Author’s last name, first name. Year of publication. Title of Book. Name of publisher. For example: Geary, S., and K. Vitasek. 2008. *Performance-Based Logistics: A Contractor’s Guide to Life Cycle Product Support Management*. Supply Chain Visions. Another example: Benn, Gottfried. 1961. *Primal Vision*. Ed. E. B. Ashton; trans. M. Hamburger. Bodley Head.
- All subsequent references should follow the CMS short title format: Author, date, page number. For example: Savage and Watson, 1995, 2.

- Manuscript references: When referring to manuscripts, the first citation must include the full manuscript information: City, Library, manuscript number, folio number.
- For other types of citations, please check the CMS.

Translations

- Include translations for all quotations in languages other than English. Translations for individual foreign words, run-in quotes, and block quotes should be in parenthesis.
- In general, translations should be accompanied by the original quotation in the endnotes.

Book Reviews

- The review must be headed by the following information: title of publication; name of author or editor; publisher; date of publication; number of pages; ISBN number (if available in both hardcover and paperback, indicate numbers for both); and selling price(s).
- The text of the review must be double-spaced.
- The reviewer's name, full professional title, employer affiliation, and address must be indicated at the end of the review. (Most journals only require the author's name and affiliation.)

Tips For Writing an Abstract

An abstract allows readers to quickly and accurately identify the basic content of your article. It is an invaluable research guide because it is most often what potential readers use to decide whether your article is relevant for them.

Abstracts at a Glance:

- Condensed version of the article
- Highlights the major points covered
- Concisely describes the content and scope of the work
- Helps readers decide whether to read the entire article
- Provides readers with a preview of research
- Contains relevant keywords for searching and indexing

Many online databases, such as the Scholarly Publishing Collective, use both abstracts and full-text options to index articles. Therefore, abstracts should contain keywords and phrases that allow for easy and precise searching. Incorporating keywords into the abstract that a potential researcher would search for emphasizes the central topics of the work and gives prospective readers enough information to make an informed judgment about the applicability of the work.

Writing Tips

An abstract is a self-contained piece of writing that can be understood independently from the article. It must be kept brief (approximately 150–200 words) and may include these elements:

- Statement of the problem and objectives (gap in literature on this topic)
- Thesis statement or question
- Summary of employed methods, viewpoint, or research approach
- Conclusion(s) and/or implications of research

Keep in Mind... Depending on your rhetorical strategy, an abstract need not include your entire conclusion, as you may want to reserve this for readers of your article. The abstract should, however, clearly and concisely indicate to the reader what questions will be answered in the

article. You want to cultivate anticipation so the reader knows exactly what to expect when reading the article—if not the precise details of your conclusion(s).

Do

- Include your thesis, usually in the first 1–2 sentences
- Provide background information placing your work in the larger body of literature
- Use the same chronological structure as the original work
- Follow lucid and concise prose
- Explain the purpose of the work and methods used
- Use keywords and phrases that quickly identify the content and focus of the work
- Mimic the type and style of language found in the original article, including technical language

Do not

- Refer extensively to other works
- Add information not contained in the original work
- Define terms
- Repeat or rephrase your title
- Use first-person pronouns in abstract text (e.g., instead of “In this article, I outline,” use “This article outlines”)

Examples

The abstract should begin with a clear sense of the research question and thesis.

“While some recent scholars claim to have refuted the relevance of stylometric analysis for Plato studies, new technological advances reopen the question. This article uses two recently completed stylometric analyses of the Platonic corpus to show that advanced artificial intelligence techniques such as genetic algorithms can serve as a foundation for chronological assertions.”

It is often useful to identify the theoretical or methodological school used to approach the thesis question and/or to position the article within an ongoing debate. This helps readers situate the article in the larger conversations of your discipline.

“The debate among Watts, Koupria, and Brecker over the reliability of stylometry (2009) suggests that . . .” or “Using the definition of style proposed by Markos (2014), this article argues that . . .”

Finally, briefly state the conclusion.

“Through analyzing the results of Watts and Koupria’s genetic algorithmic stylometry, this article demonstrates that they provide solutions to roadblocks previously identified in stylometric analyses of the Platonic corpus for the purposes of developing a reliable chronology. These solutions . . .”

Penn State University Press is committed to making its publications accessible to the widest audience possible. The inclusion of alternative text (or “alt text”) will allow those using assistive technology to access the images and other graphic elements (such as tables, charts, graphs, and maps) in the digital formats of articles. Authors are encouraged to submit alt text (and where necessary, extended descriptions) for all images and other graphic elements in their manuscripts. As of June 2025, all journals with an online platform must include alt text to comply with the 2025 European Accessibility Act.

Note: If sufficient information about the image is included in the caption or the text, alt text may be unnecessary.

General Guidelines for Composing Alt Text

Alt text should clearly and concisely describe the content and function of an image. Please limit the description to the most important elements of the image. In most cases a one- or two-sentence description, consisting of no more than 250 characters (not including spaces), should suffice. If more than 250 characters are needed to convey the content and function of an image, please provide an extended description in addition to the alt text.

Extended Description

For more complex images and graphic elements (such as graphs, charts, and maps), please provide an extended description with the necessary information. Any visible English text in an image must be transcribed in the extended description. Please note that images requiring an extended description must also have the shorter alt text.

Formatting and Submitting Alt Text

Alt text should be submitted along with captions. The alt text for a figure should be set on a new line after the caption and should be preceded by <alt text>. An extended description, when necessary, should be treated in a similar manner, preceded by <extended description>. When drafting and formatting alt text, you should:

- capitalize acronyms so assistive technology reads them as separate letters and not words (e.g., US versus us);
- avoid complex symbols, such as brackets, quotation marks, dashes, ellipses, and mathematical symbols, as assistive technology does not treat all of these symbols consistently;
- write in complete sentences but avoid overly complex sentence structures.

For examples as well as additional information and resources, see [here](#).

Final Submission Checklist

- All authors and coauthors are listed in the submissions interface.
- At least one author has been designated as the corresponding author with contact details:
 - E-mail address
 - Affiliation
 - ORCID number has been provided (if you have one)
- Necessary funding statements have been provided, including funding organization name, the organization's DOI, and grant numbers if you have them.
- All necessary files have been uploaded. Submission must include:
 - Abstracts (150–200 words)
 - Keywords (3–5)
 - Separate image files (tiff, jpg, include relevant captions, **not inserted into Word file**)
 - All tables (including titles, description, footnotes)
 - Ensure all figure and table citations in the text match the files provided.
- Journal policies detailed in **submission guidelines have been reviewed** and **journal style guide has been followed**.
- Manuscript has been checked for spelling and grammar.
- Manuscript and Notes and or Works Cited sections follow the most recent *Chicago Manual of Style* (18th edition), author-date style, for formatting and language.
- You have used endnotes and not footnotes.
- All references mentioned in the Works Cited list are cited in the text.
- If you only have 1 note or 1 work cited, the sections are called Note or Work Cited (not Notes or Works Cited).
- If your article includes notes, you have used shortened citations instead of ibid (See CMOS 18, 13.37).
- Permission has been obtained for use of copyrighted material from other sources (including the Internet and for image use). Please provide permission documentation to journal editor for images or long text excerpts under copyright.
- All figures have been provided as individual image files (**not inserted into Microsoft Word**) and are 300 dpi at a sizing of at least 2.25 inches wide.
- **Alt text has been provided** to describe all supplied images, tables, and charts. See **PSU Press Alt Text Guide** in submission guidelines and reference more information [here](#).
- You have saved your article in a docx file format, not as a PDF or other file format.