

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES FOR AUTHORS

***Reception: Texts, Readers, Audiences, History* seeks to promote dialogue and discussion among scholars engaged in theoretical and practical analyses in several related fields: reader-response criticism and pedagogy, reception study, history of reading and the book, audience and communication studies, institutional studies and histories, as well as interpretive strategies related to feminism, race and ethnicity, gender and sexuality, and postcolonial studies, focusing mainly but not exclusively on the literature, culture, and media of England and the United States.**

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General Submission Criteria

- Essays submitted for publication will be evaluated anonymously by at least two outside specialists in the field. Please remove all references to or clues about your identity as author(s) from the main text, references and endnotes.
- Tables, figures, appendixes, and photos must be submitted as separate files / documents from the article text.
- Authors need to provide **alt text** to describe images, graphics, tables to ensure accessibility for individuals using screen readers. Please see the **PSU Press Alt Text Guide on page 6** for further information on writing alt text.
- Submissions should be accompanied by an Abstract of no more than 200 words. **Please see page 2 for guidelines.**
- Submit 3 - 5 key words.
- Authors are responsible for securing permissions and paying the required fees for the use of any material previously published elsewhere. Copies of permission letters should be sent to the Pennsylvania State University Press (please consult with the Editors first).

- Authors guarantee that the contribution does not infringe any copyright, violate any other property rights, or contain any scandalous, libelous, or unlawful matter.
- Authors guarantee that the contribution has not been published elsewhere and is not currently under consideration elsewhere.

Manuscript Format

- Articles should be submitted as Microsoft Word files.
- All text, including notes and works cited should be formatted in Times New Roman font, size 12 point, with double line spacing throughout.
- The length should not exceed 7000 words.
- All footnotes to be converted to endnotes, double spaced, and rendered in 12-point Times New Roman.
- Digital images should be submitted in either .tiff or .jpeg files at 300 dpi with at least 2.25 inches in width.
- If possible, all digital files (photos) should be grayscale.
- Authors need to provide **alt text** to describe images, graphics, tables to ensure accessibility for individuals using screen readers. Please see the **PSU Press Alt text Guide on page 6** for more on writing alt text.

Citations

Manuscripts must consistently conform to *The Chicago Manual of Style, 18th Edition (CMS)*.

Examples of reference citations for journal articles and books are shown below. For more examples, 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.
 - For 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.

Writing an Abstract

An abstract is a self-contained piece of writing that can be understood independently from the article. It must be kept brief (approximately 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

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

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 in abstracts. So, instead of, “In this article, I analyze,” use: “This article analyzes”

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 (PMLA 126.5, Fall 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 . . .”

PSU PRESS ALT TEXT GUIDE

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.

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) 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 shorten 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 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.