



Journal of Religion and Popular Culture

Book Review Guidelines

Contents

Book Review Process	2
Review Format.....	2
Example of Review Title	2
Example of Additional Information.....	2
Word Limit.....	2
Additional Elements for Submission	2
Contact Information	2
Queries	3



Book Review Process

Thank you for agreeing to review a book for the [Journal of Religion and Popular Culture](#). The following guidelines have been developed to provide some focus and direction for all [JRPC](#) book reviewers.

Some frequently asked questions have been included for your reference on page 3 of this document.

[JRPC](#) uses an online peer-review system called [ScholarOne Manuscripts](#) where authors, peer reviewers, and book reviewers can submit articles, evaluations, and book reviews online. From initial submissions to finished proofs, [ScholarOne Manuscripts](#) streamlines the publication process to make it easy and effective for authors, reviewers, and editors alike. When your book review is ready for submission, you will submit it through the [ScholarOne Manuscripts](#) interface.

Review Format

The title of the review is the title of the book.

In a separate paragraph please include the Author(s), Title of the Book, Publisher (city, name of publisher, date of publication), Page count, Price (currency), and ISBN.

Example of Review Title

Sanctuary Cinema: Origins of the Christian Film Industry

Example of Additional Information

Lindvall, Terry. *Sanctuary Cinema: Origins of the Christian Film Industry*. New York: New York University Press, 2007. 303 + x pp. \$45.60 (CAD). ISBN: 978-0-8147-5210-4.

Word Limit

The average review is approximately 700 words long.

Additional Elements for Submission

The review should begin with a brief overall description of the book. You may wish to consider and discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the book, comment on the author's style and presentation, whether or not the author's aims have been met, errors (typographical or other), usefulness of indices, who the book would be useful to, and if you would recommend it for purchase.

Do not forget to indicate your full name, accreditation, and affiliation at the end of your review. Please also include your e-mail address at the end of your review, so that we can send page proofs directly to you, prior to publication.

Contact Information

Please complete all fields of the [ScholarOne Manuscripts](#) registration section. If you are interested in reviewing books for the [JRPC](#), you can upload your CV indicating your areas of interest in religion and popular culture and send a message to the Book Review Editor.



Queries

Q: Should I focus my review on any particular areas of the book?

A: If you are reviewing a new edition of a book, it is a good idea to compare it with the previous version. The preface offers some guidance about what has been added, deleted, changed, as well as outlining any new research that has been included and whether the references have been updated.

If the book is illustrated, comment on the illustrations. Are they clear, do they relate well to the text? Does the index really fulfill its purpose?

Indicate the type of audience that would be interested in the book you are reviewing, such as students, teachers, researchers, or specialists.

Q: Do I have to read the whole book?

A: You are expected to read the whole book in order to provide of a detailed, accurate and informative review.

To get an overall perspective of the book take a good look at the book's table of contents and the chapter headings, read a few pages to sample the author's style, read a chapter on an area you know a great deal about, as well as a chapter you know less about to see whether it is explained clearly.

Q: Can I keep the book once I have completed my review?

A: Yes!

Q: What do I do if I feel the book is not worth reviewing?

A: On the rare occasion, a reviewer may feel the material is not worth reviewing. If this is the case, please contact the Book Review Editor [Charles Brown](#) to determine next steps.

What is a DOI?

A DOI is an article's unique identifier, registered with [CrossRef](#) (FAQ on CrossRef here: <http://www.crossref.org/01company/16fastfacts.html>) and used to create a persistent link to the article -- even if the article moves. (A journal might switch from one online hosting service to another, for example; the URL will change, but the DOI link will follow it.) A reader using the online version of an article's reference list can click on any DOI link to immediately get to the cited source; a reader using the print version can be sure of finding exactly the right article by searching the DOI instead of the author(s) or article title. Each of our online articles has its own DOI, which can be used to link back to it from other documents that cite it; including DOI links in our reference lists is the other end of that process (sort of like using recycled paper as well as recycling used paper). The more citations include DOIs, the more researchers will use them, which ultimately will drive more readers to our content.

To read about the importance of finding quality book reviewers and publishing their work, please read Lynette Felber's "[The Book Review: Scholarly and Editorial Responsibility](#)", published in the [Journal of Scholarly Publishing](#).

Thank you so much for your willingness to review a book and your interest in the [Journal of Religion and Popular Culture](#).



Questions relating to any of the above details may be directed to the [JRPC](#) Book Review Editor at the address below:

Charles Brown
Albright College
E-mail: cbrown@albright.edu