Journal of Religion and Popular Culture Review Guidelines

Contents

Subject Matter and Scope

The *Journal of Religion and Popular Culture* is a web-based, peer-reviewed journal committed to the academic exploration, analysis and interpretation, from a range of disciplinary perspectives, of the interrelations and interactions between religion and religious expression and popular culture, broadly defined as the products of contemporary mass culture. The journal is based in Canada, but international in scope, and open to explorations of religion and popular culture in a variety of nationalities and cultures.

The *JRPC* is published three times per year with the support of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. The *JRPC* is published by the University of Toronto Press. It is a member of the Canadian Association of Learned Journals/Association Canadienne des Revues Savantes.

Peer Review Process

The *Journal of Religion and Popular Culture* uses a bilingual 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 article is ready for submission, you will submit it through the ScholarOne Manuscripts interface.

Blinding

The *Journal of Religion and Popular Culture* uses a double-blind peer review process, meaning that neither the reviewers nor the authors know each other's identity. In addition, the reviewers are not aware of each other's identity. Each manuscript is evaluated by at least two reviewers.

Please remove any information that would identify you from the "properties" section of your Word file. To do this go to the document and click on "file," scroll down to "properties" and delete any identifying information. If you are sending a PDF please remove your information before you create the PDF version of the review.

Appointment of Reviewers

Manuscript reviewers are appointed by the Editor. They are selected because they have expertise related to the content that is published in the *JRPC*. Manuscript reviewers must have some experience as authors of articles published in peer-reviewed journals. Reviewer reappointments are contingent upon reviewers fulfilling their responsibilities in a timely and effective manner.

Reviewer's Responsibilities

Reviewers are responsible for evaluating manuscripts in a collegial, courteous and timely manner. Reviewers who are unable to honour their commitment to provide a review should notify the Editor as soon as possible so that a substitute can be found.

Evaluating the Manuscript

Please use this evaluation framework to guide your review of the manuscript which you have agreed to review, in addition to your written comments.

Evaluate and rate (5=EXCELLENT - 1=POOR) the paper for the following:

_____ Manuscript focuses on issues related to religion and popular culture.
_____ Manuscript is of current interest.
_____ Manuscript is a significant contribution to the field.
_____ Manuscript is clear, well-written and concise.
_____ Manuscript is accurate in terms of content.
_____ Manuscript is appropriate in length.
_____ Manuscript has an adequate grasp of the relevant literature.
_____ Manuscript reflects appropriate method/theoretical framework?
_____ Manuscript's conclusions are persuasive
_____ Overall rating (average score)?

REFEREE'S COMMENTS:

Please provide comments on the points noted above, where appropriate.

Process

In the case of a recommendation of Revise and Resubmit (see below), reviewers may be requested to review a revised version of the manuscript and make a final recommendation as to its publishability.

Confidential Recommendation

In a confidential recommendation to the Editor, you are asked to choose and justify your recommendation from one of the following:

Accept

- No changes needed from author(s). Manuscripts that are accepted are immediately scheduled for publication. Note: Very few manuscripts are "Accepted" at the initial review stage!

Accept with Revisions

- Manuscript is accepted for publication, conditional on author(s) making minor changes and resubmitting via PRESTO. This recommendation should be made when some clarifications or changes are needed in the manuscript but the credibility of the content is not in question.

Revise and Resubmit

- Authors are asked to make substantial changes to the manuscript. Manuscript acceptance for publication is conditional on the content contained in the revised manuscript.

Reject

- This recommendation should be made when deficiencies indicate that a manuscript should not be published.

Decision Letter

Reviewers should keep their copies of manuscripts until they receive a decision letter. The decision letter will inform the reviewer of the course of action that was taken on the manuscript. The letter will contain the comments of the reviewers and the Editor.

Thank you so much for your willingness to review an article. Not only are you helping the journal, but you are providing a professional development opportunity for the author(s) of the article you review.

Contact Information

Please fill out all sections on the ScholarOne Manuscripts registration screen.

Queries

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.

"How to Alienate Your Editor: A Practical Guide for Established Authors", written by Stephen K. Donovan and published in the *Journal of Scholarly Publishing*, is an excellent article on classic mistakes made during the submission process. Also useful is "Surviving Referees' Reports" written by Brian Martin and also published in the *Journal of Scholarly Publishing*. Questions relating to any of the above details may be directed to the *Journal of Religion and Popular Culture* Editor at the address below:

Scott Daniel Dunbar (Humanities)
Lecturer
Faculty of Arts
Monash University
Victoria, Australia, 3800
Phone: (03) 990 58748
E-mail: scott.dunbar@monash.edu

Jennifer E. Porter (Social Sciences)
Associate Professor
Department of Religious Studies
Memorial University
St. John's, NL, Canada A1A 2E9
Phone: (709) 864-2469
Email: jporter@mun.ca