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These guidelines are designed to streamline the formatting of our reviews and to ensure their timely publication. Please refer any questions to your commissioning editor.

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**File Formats**

When your review is complete, please e-mail it to your commissioning editor as an attachment in one of the following preferred formats: Microsoft Word (*.doc or *.docx) or Rich Text Format (*.rtf). Please do not submit your review in PDF format.

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Please begin your review by creating a proper header. Include standard bibliographic information for the work under review and then include your name and institutional affiliation as in the following examples. Use two spaces after periods in headers only and one space after periods in body text.

*Article or Journal Issue Review*

[Article Collection with none or multiple authors—include editors if available]


Reviewed by Robert Jervis, Columbia University

[Single article under review]


Reviewed by George Roberts, University of Cambridge
Essays and Review Essays

[Single Work Review Essay]


Reviewed by Nicolas Guilhot, CNRS (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique) and the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton

[Review Essay covering multiple works]


Reviewed by Ryan Irwin, University at Albany-SUNY

[Original Essay]

Essay by Frank Ninkovich, Emeritus Professor of History, St. John’s University

Roundtable Review


Reviewed by James Loeffler, University of Virginia

Those without a current institutional affiliation should use the term “Independent scholar.”

Reviews should be single-spaced with automatic spacing between paragraphs (or a one-line break between individual paragraphs). Please number all pages. Use a 11-point font for body text and 10-point for footnotes, preferable a serif font such as Garamond, Times, Times New Roman, or Cambria. Use 1” margins all around (Normal Margins in Microsoft Word). Book titles should be italicized; article titles should be placed in double quotation marks. Please avoid the use of exclamation marks and the overuse of italics for emphasis in the text.

Content and Substance

Please briefly summarize the main arguments of the article under review and comment on its strengths and weaknesses, including its use of evidence (primary and secondary), clarity, and coherence. Please include in your analysis a comparison of the work with other scholarship on the topic (please cite such references using full footnote citations) and place the piece in its historiographical context. In addition, please discuss the methodological implications of the work under review.
H-Diplo Style Sheet

H-Diplo reaches a global audience. As such, please clarify regional or discipline-specific terminology and avoid the use of “we” when referring to one’s home nation or government. Refer to countries in the third person neutral form.

Please avoid sarcasm, irony, or comments upon the author’s motives or beliefs. Reviews should engage an author’s ideas and arguments rather than the author’s person. Please do not directly address question or comments to the author of the work and instead frame those questions in the third-person or in a neutral manner.

Writing should be formal and avoid the use of contractions and jargon.

Review Length

Although there is no fixed word limit, most article reviews and review essays fall between 1,500–2,500 words. Roundtable reviews may use whatever length is necessary, within reason. Unlike many print journals, H-Diplo has the flexibility to print longer reviews if necessary.

Citations [please refer also to the Style section later in this Style Sheet]:

When quoting from the article or book under review, cite the appropriate page number(s) in parentheses at the end of the sentence. Please place the period after the parentheses.

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Provide full citations in Chicago style, including author (first and last name), title, place of publication, publisher, and publication date. Do not use p. or pp.; simply cite the page numbers. Cite archival documents in descending order Archive/Series/Folder … Item/Date).

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For a subsequent reference, please cite the last name and page number, adding an abbreviated title if necessary to avoid confusion. So, for example, cite as Guyatt, 123, or, if citing multiple works by the same author, then, for example, Stephanson, Manifest Destiny, 77. Ibid. is acceptable. Do not use op. cit., which is deprecated.

Example of an article from a scholarly journal:


Please include the volume and issue number as in the above example. If available, please include the DOI (Digital Object
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There is no need to list the last accessed date due to the lead time between drafting and publication. Include page number if citing print edition and URL if citing an online version. As newspaper websites are frequently redesigned and articles regularly placed behind paywalls, full and complete citations including author(s) and full article titles are essential for future scholarly use.

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Cite pseudonyms as authors. As in the above example (with the Organization of American Historians), if the blog is part of a larger publication or organization, include the name of that publication or organization.

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Refrain from using sub-headings and bullet points. Full paragraph style is preferred.

Varieties of English: Reviews may be written in American, British, or Canadian English, or in French, providing that
standard linguistic conventions are used consistently (in terms of quotation marks, spelling, punctuation, and other matters).

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**Spacing:** Use a single space after all punctuation.

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**Quotations:** Use American conventions regarding quotation mark and punctuation styles. Single-space and indent block quotations. Keep the original spelling and punctuation in all quotations, indicate edits with square brackets. Include parenthetical page citations for quotations from the work under review using MLA style, with the period following the parentheses. Please place the closing quotation mark at the end of the sentence. So, “…brevity is the soul of wit” (251). And not “…brevity is the soul of wit. (251)”

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**Autobiographical Sketch of the Reviewer**

Please include at the end of your review a one paragraph biographical sketch that indicates current affiliation, selected publications, and research interests.

**The Production Process**

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