

Oxford New Books

Submission Guidelines for Authors
Updated May 2024

AIMS AND SCOPE OF THE JOURNAL

Oxford New Books is an online-only, peer-reviewed, open-access journal which publishes commentaries on new books in the history of political thought, intellectual history, political theory, critical theory, and political philosophy. All authors are offered the opportunity to respond to the commentaries; if they accept, their responses are published as well.

Currently, the commentaries we publish are first presented in 'new books' sessions of the *Oxford Political Thought* and *Critical Theory* seminars at the University of Oxford. We hope one day to expand our remit, publishing commentaries on books from a broader range of disciplinary and sub-disciplinary seminars. If you run a seminar in Oxford and would like to have your own 'new books' session considered for publication in *ONB* please get in touch at oxfordnewbooks@gmail.com.

TYPE OF ARTICLE ACCEPTED

ONB publishes reviews of new books in political theory and history alongside author responses. At the moment, the journal only considers reviews which have been a part of a 'new books' seminar series event hosted at the University of Oxford—such as, but not limited to, the *Oxford Political Thought* and the *Critical Theory* seminars—and does not accept unsolicited external reviews.

Please direct any questions about your piece's eligibility to oxfordnewbooks@gmail.com.

HOW TO SUBMIT AN ARTICLE

Submissions should be sent via email to oxfordnewbooks@gmail.com as a Word document. Please do not 'lock' your document and ensure that the text follows the style and citation guidelines below.

Submissions should not include the name of the author in the attachment itself. Other pieces of identifying information in the text of the submission (e.g. "When I taught Political Theory in 2021...") are fine to include. But please be aware that your audience will not all be familiar with

local conventions. See the ‘Peer Review’ section below for more information about your piece’s anonymity.

In the body of your email, please include your name, current institutional affiliation, and the details of the event where you first delivered your comments. If possible, please include the names and details of any other scholars who commented with you on the same book at the same event. Please include your ORCID number if you have one.

There are no submission or publishing fees.

STYLE & STRUCTURE

When turning your in-person comments into a written review for *ONB*, please formalize your language so that your submission is styled as a published, scholarly essay rather than a spoken commentary. For example, remove any references to the event’s audience; your piece should be legible on the page to readers who did not attend the event. If you are unsure about how to turn your in-person comments into a written review, check previously published pieces in *ONB*.

Submissions should fall between 1300 and 2500 words in length. The body of the text should be 1.5-spaced, including quotations, in a 12-point font size.

ONB uses standard UK spellings (e.g. colour, organise, centre, defence, programme).

When quoting, punctuation should fall *outside* the closing quotation marks. Block quotations should appear without quotation marks and should be indented at 0.5, flush left.

Please left-align all pages and set all margins to one inch. Page numbers should be visible in the bottom centre of each page.

CITATION GUIDELINES

ONB uses the current edition of the *Chicago Manual of Style*, “Documentation I: Notes and Bibliography” (not Author-Date), with some minor tweaks. All citation notes should be formatted as consecutively numbered footnotes. The first footnoted reference should follow the format below; subsequent references should be shortened to author, short title, page number. Please use shortened titles instead of ‘ibid’ (*CMOS* 17th edition, Chapter 14.34).

Citing a book:

Melissa Lane, *Of Rule and Office: Plato’s Ideas of the Political* (Princeton: Princeton University Press 2023), 27.

Shortened note: Lane, *Of Rule and Office*, 27.

Jill Frank, *Poetic Justice: Rereading Plato’s Republic* (Chicago: Chicago University Press 2019), 90-97.

Shortened note: Frank, *Poetic Justice*, 90-97.

Citing a journal article:

Gisela Striker, 'Ataraxia: Happiness as Tranquility', *The Monist* 73, no. 1 (January 1990): 100.

Shortened note: Striker, 'Ataraxia', 100.

Mimi Kim, 'The Carceral Creep: Gender-Based Violence, Race, and the Expansion of the Punitive State, 1973-1983', *Social Problems* 67, no. 2 (May 2020): 260.

Shortened note: Kim, 'The Carceral Creep', 260.

Citing a translated book:

Francoise Vergès, *A Feminist Theory of Violence*, trans. Melissa Thackway (London: Pluto Press 2022), 110.

Shortened note: Vergès, *A Feminist Theory of Violence*, 110.

Elsa Dorlin, *Self-Defense: A Philosophy of Violence*, trans. Kieran Aarons (Brooklyn: Verso 2022), 15.

Shortened note: Dorlin, *Self-Defense*, 15.

Citing a chapter from an edited collection:

Onora O'Neill, 'Cultures of Trust and the Rule of Law', in Ruth Chang and Amia Srinivasan (eds) *Conversations in Philosophy, Law, and Politics*, (Oxford: Oxford University Press 2024), 120

Shortened note: O'Neill, 'Cultures of Trust', 120.

Citing website content:

Jen Parker and Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor, 'Hammer & Hope: Toward a Radical New Future', Winter 2023, <https://hammerandhope.org/article/issue-1-article-2>.

Shortened note: Parker and Taylor, 'Hammer and Hope'.

To view the citation format for a type of source not listed here, see *CMOS* 17th Ed. 14.100-163 or check the *Chicago Manual of Style* [website](#).

For classical references, please include the edition cited and provide credit for any translations. Use scholarly editions and translations when they exist, unless another version is important to your piece. If you use your own translation, please note this in the footnote. Please use the

standard numbering identification system applicable when citing the original classical text, such as the Stephanus, Bekker, or Diels-Kranz numbering.

PUBLISHING PROCEDURE & SCHEDULE

ONB issues are published three times a year at the beginning of each Oxford term (in January, May, and October).

Authors can expect to hear whether their pieces have been passed to peer review within a month of their submission and will hear the outcome of their peer review within two months. The final publishing decision will be made by the editors, guided by the peer reviewers.

After a piece has been reviewed, authors will have a few weeks to make substantive and editorial changes to their piece. This timeline will be clearly communicated to authors via email. Once finalized, the piece will be sent to the reviewed book author, who will have the opportunity to respond. At this stage, authors will be able to make some copy-editing changes to their piece, but not to significantly change the content.

Please note that the publication of each review involves some coordination with other scholars; we aim to bundle commentaries which were delivered at the same event on the same book. Further, the reviewed author needs time to respond to your review. As a result, please expect that the publication of your review may be briefly delayed as we coordinate with your colleagues.

PEER REVIEW

Submissions will be read by at least one reviewer in a single-blind review process. Editors may reject an article—or request adjustments—before review.

Your piece will be reviewed without your name attached. But because each *ONB* review has been delivered already in person, we recognise that anonymity might not be fully achievable.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE AUTHOR

ONB adheres to the [ethical standards](#) endorsed by the Committee on Publication Ethics. In particular:

1. We expect all authors to state in their article if they have a conflict of interest which could potentially bias their opinions (e.g. funding or employment).
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3. We also require authors to warrant that their article does not defame, libel, or bring another person into disrepute, and neither does it contain anything illegal (e.g. copyright infringement).

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Authors who include images in their piece will be asked to confirm that they have the rights to those images' reproduction. If you are unsure about the rights to an image, please do not include it in your submission.

ERRATA & CORRECTIONS

ONB will investigate any post-publication errors. If there are errors in a published piece, we will correct the article with an erratum or, if required, retract the article. All authors will be informed and, if possible, their consent obtained before changes are made.

NAME CHANGES

Authors who wish to change their name—for any reason—after publication can contact the editorial team with their name change request at oxfordnewbooks@gmail.com. *ONB* will work with authors to find the best solution.

APPEALS

If you feel that your piece has been rejected unfairly, you may appeal the final decision by sending an appeal letter to the editorial team via email. In your letter, please explain why you believe the decision was incorrect or unfair. There is no need to attach a revised version of your piece with your letter. *ONB* will only consider one appeal per manuscript, so please ensure that your appeals letter thoroughly states your case.

The appeal will be reviewed by a member of the editorial team or editorial board who was not involved in the original decision. If they agree with the original decision, you will be notified. If they decide that the original decision was incorrect, they may either (1) send your article for further peer review alongside your appeal letter and previous reviewer comments, or (2) request a revised piece which will then be sent for peer review. Please note that sending your piece for further peer review is not a guarantee of acceptance.