

ASCH Guidelines For Book Reviewers

Church History publishes book reviews in two lengths. Larger reviews run 800 to 1,000 words, and shorter ones run 200 to 250 words. The editorial assistant in charge of book reviews will specify what length is deemed appropriate for a given book. While a reviewer may request a length other than the one assigned, the final decision remains at the discretion of the editors and staff. Reviews that exceed the assigned limit may be returned for revisions. Reviews are due two months after you receive the book.

The editors request that all book reviews take into account the following elements:

- A presentation of the author's thesis, argument, methodology, and sources.
- A brief summary of the contents of the book.
- An evaluation of the argument, methodology, use of sources, premises, and conclusions of the book, highlighting both strengths and weaknesses.
- The place of the work within the larger context of its field.
- For collected essays: an assessment of the purpose of the collection and its strengths and weaknesses; an evaluation of select individual works (rather than a list of all the contributions; every essay need not be mentioned).
- The inclusion of page number references wherever the text is quoted.

In addition, the editors request that all book reviews offer an honest and fair evaluation of the scholarship under review. The aim is to analyze the book, not the author. The editors recognize that these goals can be achieved in a variety of ways, and they are not looking for one particular format in a review.

Reviewers are supplied with detailed review information and a style guide upon receipt of the book.

Further information about the journal and the editorial process can be found at:
<http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayMoreInfo?jid=CHH&type=bri>

The editors prefer that contributors submit reviews electronically via e-mail. E-mail works most successfully when the review is sent as an attachment to a message. It is possible to cut it from a word processor and paste it directly into the body of the message, but formatting involving accents and italics may be lost. If the review contains unusual diacritical marks or foreign language characters, please mail or fax the hard-copy in addition to an electronic version in order to avoid errors. While reviews submitted on hard copy alone are accepted, the electronic version makes the editing task significantly easier. Reviewers will receive an e-mail or letter confirming the receipt of their review. Church History does not provide complimentary copies of the journal or off prints to reviewers.

The editors reserve the right to make editorial changes to all book reviews; they will consult reviewers only if they make significant alterations. The editors also reserve the right to make final decisions regarding the publication of all book reviews.

If you judge that this book is not worthy of review, or if it requires a shorter or longer review than the editors have requested, please contact the Church History office before writing it.

Please contact the Church History office by e-mail regarding any further questions.

Interested in Submitting a Review? Have further questions? Contact the Church History office by e-mail, chreview@umn.edu