

Publishing an Article: Why and Where

While the main focus of your graduate career should always be to work towards the completion of your thesis/degree, publishing an article helps to increase your academic profile, to present your work before your peers, to network with other scholars, and most of all to make yourself more competitive in the job market. Preparing an article for publication can help you marshal your thoughts, offer new insights for your work, and motivate you to achieve deadlines; all of these are skills that can also be applied to your thesis. Trying to publish an article can also potentially distract you from your thesis, so you should weigh the idea of publishing carefully; however, a published piece offers you the opportunity to strengthen the ideas of your thesis as you develop it, and/or to publicize it after you have completed it. A publication can help you stand out in the job market, academic and otherwise, as well as in applying to PhD programs.

The American Historical Association maintains a directory of peer-reviewed, English language history journals: <http://www.historians.org/pubs/free/journals/>. In general, all of these journals subject submissions, by PhD holding faculty members or graduate students, to the same process of double-blind peer review. For this reason, many/most of these journals are extremely difficult to publish in, even for PhD-holding faculty. Most graduate students should attempt submission to these journals only at the prompting of their advisors: that is, if their advisors have indicated that they have an incredibly polished and original piece of research that merits such a submission to a peer-reviewed, academic journal of history.

Beyond these journals, however, a host of other journals, usually online journals, specifically solicit and publish the work of graduate students in history. These journals are listed below. While publishing in a ranked journal in your field is very prestigious, it is often extremely competitive, even for faculty, and graduate journals are a good place to learn the ropes of the publishing process and try out ideas in early stages. Students should speak to their advisors about these submissions as well, and should contact the editors of specific journals to explore the possibilities of submission.

You should not submit an article to two or more journals at once. You should pick the journal that is the best fit for your article and wait for a return on your submission—an acceptance or a rejection—before deciding to try to submit it to another journal. This is a sort of unwritten rule of academic publication, but one that is worth following since if two different journals ask the same reviewer to evaluate your article and thereby discover that you have submitted it to two journals, it is possible that both of those journals will decline to move forward with your submission. Or, if both were to accept your article, it cannot be published in two journals and again, you could lose your chances for publication from both journals.

A Few General Tips from Editors:

While developing a well-crafted article entails a great variety of skills, in general, editors tend to find three main problems with graduate student submissions. Here are the three things your article needs to pay attention to:

1) Articles should not try to do too much. When they do, they become too broad and unfocused--like "Plato to NATO" or wanting to re-write the history of history. Strong articles are reasonably narrow in focus and cover a manageable geographical and temporal scope with a well-defined argument.

(2) Articles need to be set in a well-defined historiographical context. This includes the citation and discussion of the major works in the particular field or topic of study. Blind reviewers pick up on the presence/absence of such a discussion right away.

3) Articles must be polished in their presentation and pay close, if not perfectionist attention to proper formatting, organization, consistency in spacing, fonts, spelling of names and organizations, and referencing. Sloppy presentation **never** sits well with editorial committees, and articles can be turned back for this reason alone.

Graduate Student Journals

49th Parallel

Peer-reviewed, interdisciplinary, electronic journal from the University of Birmingham focused broadly on North American studies; interested in graduate student submissions.

<http://www.49thparallel.bham.ac.uk/>

African Studies Quarterly

ASQ is an interdisciplinary, fully refereed, online journal dedicated to publishing the finest scholarship relating to the African continent. Published from the Center for African Studies and the University of Florida. Solicits graduate student submissions.

<http://asq.africa.ufl.edu/about/>

Angelus Novus

Angelus Novus is a graduate journal of economic and social history published by Universidad de São Paulo, Brazil.

<http://www.usp.br/ran/ojs/index.php/angelusnovus/index>

Anistoriton: Electronic Journal of History, Archaeology, and Art History

Published biannually in June and December; peer-reviewed by specialists in the relevant field and/or topic as well as by the Editorial Board. Ideally, authors should be on the faculty of an institution of higher education and/or hold at least a graduate degree in their fields. However, the Editorial Board welcome and encourage the submission of well written and researched studies by advanced undergraduate and graduate students (papers, analysis, etc.) as well as by independent scholars, especially for the Viewpoints section. Generally, the Editorial Board places emphasis on the quality and relevance of the work submitted rather than the qualifications of the author.

<http://www.anistor.gr/english/index.htm>

The Appendix

The Appendix is a quarterly journal of experimental and narrative history; though at times outlandish, everything in its pages is as true as the sources allow. *The Appendix* solicits articles from historians, writers, and artists committed to good storytelling, with an eye for the strange and a suspicion of both jargon and traditional narratives. A creature of the web, its format takes advantage of the flexibility of hypertext and modern web presentation techniques to experiment with and explore the process and method of writing history.

<http://theappendix.net/>

Britain and the World

Out of UT Austin; not a graduate student journal per se, but accepts graduate submissions.

<http://www.eupublishing.com/page/brw/submissions>

Comitatus: A Journal of Medieval and Renaissance Studies

Comitatus is a peer-reviewed annual publication of the UCLA Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies (online and print). It publishes articles by graduate students and recent PhDs in any field of medieval and Renaissance studies. The journal maintains a tradition of gathering work from across disciplines, with a special interest in articles that have an interdisciplinary or cross-cultural scope.

http://escholarship.org/uc/search?entity=cmrs_comitatus;view=submissionguidelines

The Early America Review

The Early America Review is an online journal allowing authors to present their knowledge of the life and times of 18th century America. It is interested in submissions of scholarly papers, articles, dissertations, book reviews and personal commentary focusing on the people, places, issues and events in America of the 1700s. There is no restriction regarding prior publication of a manuscript. Contact the journal stating the title, subject and approximate length of your work.

<http://www.earlyamerica.com/review/>

EDGE - A Graduate Journal for German and Scandinavian Studies

Edge is a peer-reviewed, open access, interdisciplinary, online graduate journal for German and Scandinavian Studies. The journal is published annually under the direction of graduate students in the German and Scandinavian Studies program at the University of Massachusetts Amherst with the support of the W.E.B. DuBois Library, and each issue is written, refereed, and edited by graduate students. *Edge* showcases the best new scholarly articles in German and Scandinavian Studies by graduate students, as well as reviews of films and the latest books of interest in the field. We welcome submissions from all disciplines with a connection to German and Scandinavian Studies, including but not limited to comparative literature, cultural studies, history, film and media studies and philology.

<http://scholarworks.umass.edu/edge/>

Essays in History

Established in 1954, *Essays in History* is the annual publication of the Corcoran Department of History at the University of Virginia. Seeking high-quality work by emerging scholars, *EiH* publishes peer-reviewed articles in all fields of historical inquiry, as well as reviews of the most recent scholarship. The journal accepts primarily graduate student work, for online publication.

<http://www.essaysinhistory.com/>

The Graduate History Review

The Graduate History Review is an annually published, peer-reviewed, open-access scholarly journal that features articles from emerging scholars working in all fields of historical scholarship. It is published by history graduate students at the University of Victoria. The bulk of each issue of *The Graduate History Review* will feature full-length articles based on original historical research. Each issue will also include shorter "Research Notes," which are designed to offer students a forum to present works-in-progress, reflective essays, or "think pieces." We seek original scholarship by graduate students from across Canada and the United States. We welcome submissions from around the globe.

<http://journals.uvic.ca/index.php/ghr/index>

Hindsight

Hindsight is a scholarly publication from the Department of History at Fresno State University that provides an outlet for graduate students in the social sciences, arts and humanities to gain experience in professional writing and promote their work within the academic community. The journal is dedicated to the publication of interdisciplinary historical work submitted by students from the social sciences, arts and humanities, and is an academic journal run by graduate students, for graduate students.

<http://www.fresnostate.edu/socialsciences/historydept/organizations/hindsight/>

The Historian

The Historian is the journal Phi Alpha Theta National History Honors Society, housed at the University of South Florida, published both electronically and in hard copy. The Journal accepts submissions from graduate students, subject to same peer-review as for faculty. (In 2012, the editor reported that 25% of their published articles came from graduate students).

<http://phialphatheta.org/historian>

**extensive book review section; contact the book review editor to inquire about submitting a review

<http://go.owu.edu/~brhistor/>

The History Teacher

The History Teacher publishes print and electronic articles of three general types: 1) Reports on promising new classroom techniques, educational programs, curricula, and methods of evaluating instructional effectiveness. 2) Analyses of important interpretations, leading historians, historiographical problems, and recent trends in specific fields of historical research. 3) Critical review essays on audiovisual materials, textbooks, and other secondary works suitable for classroom use.

<http://www.societyforhistoryeducation.org/contributing.html>

Hortulus: The Online Graduate Journal of Medieval Studies

Hortulus: The Online Graduate Journal of Medieval Studies is a multidisciplinary refereed postgraduate journal devoted to the literatures, cultures, and ideas of the

medieval world. Published electronically twice a year, its mission is to present a forum in which graduate students from around the globe may share their work.

<http://hortulus-journal.com/>

The Journal of Women's History

History Department, Binghamton University. This is a competitive journal and not a graduate student journal per se, but it accepts graduate student submissions, subject to same peer review as for faculty, and has a prize (\$3000 and publication in the journal) specifically for a graduate student article:

<http://bingdev.binghamton.edu/jwh/>

Past Imperfect

Past Imperfect solicits graduate student publications from students working in all fields and periods of history and classics. *Past Imperfect* is a peer reviewed, open access, online journal, edited by graduate students, and generously supported by the Department of History and Classics at the University of Alberta. Now in its seventeenth year of publication, the journal invites original, innovative, and sophisticated submissions from emerging scholars across Canada and the United States. Articles that appear in *Past Imperfect* are abstracted in "America: History and Life" and "Historical Abstracts."

<http://ejournals.library.ualberta.ca/index.php/pi/>

Regeneración Tlacuilolli: UCLA Raza Studies Journal

Accepts articles and creative writings investigating the intellectual, cultural, and historic issues pertinent to Chicanas and Chicanos. The contributors to the journal will be academics in their early careers, community activists, artists, and professionals. With this broad contributor pool, we expect the journal to be a method of translating diverse methods of writing into a broader vernacular language that can promote cross collaboration.

<http://www.gsa.asucla.ucla.edu/content/regeneraci%C3%B3n-tlacuilolli-ucla-raza-studies-journal>

Past Tense: Graduate Review of History

Past Tense: Graduate Review of History provides a forum for developing scholars to gain experience with academic publishing. The journal publishes original research articles, book reviews and critical commentaries about issues in the field of history. It welcomes submissions from researchers of all disciplines and institutions on topics that concern a broad range of time periods and geographies. *Past Tense* is published annually, online, by the University of Toronto's Graduate History Society.

<http://pasttensejournal.com/index.php/pasttense/index>

Sagar: A South Asia Research Journal

Sagar seeks innovative academic writings on the history, society, culture, literature, religion, economics, technology and media of South Asia. The journal was established in 1993 and is published annually online and in print by The South Asia Institute at The University of Texas at Austin. Submissions are coordinated by an editorial collective of UT graduate students and blindly evaluated by an editorial board of advanced scholars in the field. We also seek original translations of fiction and non-fiction prose and poetry from South Asian languages to English.

<http://www.utexas.edu/cola/insts/southasia/publications/sagar/sagar.php>

The Southern New Mexico Historical Review

Online publication of the Dona Ana County Historical Society.

<http://www.donaanacountyhistsoc.org/index.html>

Symposia

Symposia is the Graduate Student Journal of the Centre for the Study of Religion at the University of Toronto: an online, peer reviewed journal for graduate students in the study of religion and related fields.

<http://symposia.library.utoronto.ca/index.php/symposia/index>

Tarih: Graduate History Journal

Tarih is a peer-reviewed scholarly electronic journal published yearly under the auspices of the Department of History at Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, Turkey, was launched in 2009 with the aim of encouraging graduate students' research in the

field of history. It is committed to the world-historical and comparative perspectives, covering a wide range of areas and periods, and representing diverse approaches to the study of the past. It also contains a review section of books published in English and other languages, as well as regular interviews with prominent scholars in the field.

<http://graduatehistoryjournal.boun.edu.tr/index.html>

UCLA Historical Journal

The *UCLA Historical Journal* is an e-journal dedicated to promoting excellence in graduate student research and writing. The Journal welcomes submissions from graduate students across the country in all fields of history and related disciplines. Instituted by UCLA history graduate students in 1980, the Journal's objectives are two-fold: to allow graduate students the opportunity to publish their work in a scholarly journal; and to acquaint graduate students with writings and methodologies from various historical fields which might be relevant to their own interests and pursuits.

http://escholarship.org/uc/ucla_history_historyjournal

World History Bulletin

The *World History Bulletin* features and accepts contributions by graduate students in world history. It is published by the World History Association.

<http://www.thewha.org/about-wha/publications/>