Notes for Compass Article Authors

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What is History Compass?

History Compass (www.history-compass.com) offers the quality of a scholarly journal combined with the speed and functionality of the Web.

History Compass publishes peer-reviewed survey articles on a continuous basis, with new articles appearing as soon as they are ready. All articles are listed in the major abstracting index for the relevant discipline. Compass operates the same quality control procedures as for any Wiley-Blackwell journal, both in terms of editorial and production standards.

COMPASS JOURNALS DO NOT PUBLISH ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLES AND SUCH ARTICLES WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED OR REVIEWED. AUTHORS ARE REFERRED TO WWW.BLACKWELL-COMPASS.COM FOR SAMPLE ARTICLES WHICH EXEMPLIFY THE ACCEPTABLE FORMAT.

History Compass articles allow scholars and advanced students to:

- keep up with new developments and trends in research
- teach in a new or unfamiliar area outside of their speciality
- ensure that students are exposed only to quality-controlled online content (as opposed to unvalidated content from search engines)

Encompassing geographical areas from across the world and through all time periods, History Compass publishes original, peer-reviewed survey articles on a monthly basis. Articles are indexed in Historical Abstracts.

In addition, the journal also offers select Teaching & Learning Guides, themed Compass Clusters, a companion History Compass Blog, an annual Graduate Essay Prize and VLE / CMS compatibility (e.g. Blackboard, WebCT, Moodle).
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**Your Compass article**

**Examples of Compass Articles**

If you have not already done so, please feel free to visit the site, where you can see the kind of articles already published: [www.history-compass.com](http://www.history-compass.com). The most popular articles are available free on the right-hand side of the homepage. Sample articles can also be found on the Blackwell Compass portal: [http://www.blackwell-compass.com/home_history_compass](http://www.blackwell-compass.com/home_history_compass).

**Length and Scope**

In general, articles should run between 3-5000 words. Longer articles can be considered at the Section Editor’s discretion. The Section Editor will agree the topic of your article with you before you begin to write your piece.

Any article submitted to *Compass* should be an original survey piece which either:

- offers a perspective on an area of research whilst framing this within an overview of the wider field and scholarship; or,
- focuses on the state of the field itself, considering new electronic resources, evaluating new methods of research and teaching, etc.
- looks at an area where there has been a recent controversy or breakthrough, or a public debate, or which has enjoyed a renaissance or suffered a revision, or where a significant body of work needs synthesizing.

**Emphasis:** The emphasis for authors is to insert their discussion of historiography clearly into an evolving history and changing historical perspectives. An article should provide an overview of a key debate (including the main publications), or a new area of research that is being developed or an important resource that is of use to history scholars. Compass articles should always refer to current scholarship and be accessible to the non-specialist. Where possible, articles should highlight why the chosen topic is of particular relevance now, and provide suggestions for future directions in research.
Examples:
Too broad: ‘Women Writers and War’
Too narrow: ‘Women Writers in Germany 1941-42’
Just right: ‘Women Writers in World War II’

Articles submitted to Compass should not have been previously published or accepted to be published elsewhere. Papers presented at a conference or symposium may be accepted for publication by agreement with the relevant editor.

Audience
The Compass audience consists of research and teaching faculty, graduate students and advanced undergraduates – from potentially any area of the discipline. This is a distinguishing feature of the journal, and a benefit to authors in terms of enhanced exposure. You are writing for your peers, but also for researchers and students from unrelated areas. It is therefore crucial that Compass articles always remain accessible to non-specialists. The writing should be authoritative and lively.

History Compass readers will be able to cite your article in their publications, email details of the article to their colleagues, or use it in their class reading lists.

Style Guidelines
Oxford Style Manual should be used for Endnotes and Bibliography. Examples can be found towards the end of these guidelines.

NOTE: The History Compass Endnote style can also be downloaded here: ftp://support.isiresearchsoft.com/pub/pc/styles/endnote4/History%20Compass.ens.

Optimising Your Title and Abstract
Many students and researcher looking for information online will use search engines such as Google, Yahoo! or similar. By optimizing your title and abstract, you will increase the chance of someone finding it. This in turn will make it more likely to be viewed and/or cited in another work. In order to optimise your abstract, we recommend you

- Ensure the key phrases for your article’s topic appear in the title and abstract e.g. ‘postcolonial literature.’
- Use the same key phrases, if possible, in the title and abstract. Note of caution: unnecessary repetition will result in the page being rejected by search engines so don't overdo it.

Example of Well-Optimised Title/Abstract

*Genocide and Holocaust Consciousness in Australia*

Ever since the British colonists in Australia became aware of the disappearance of the indigenous peoples in the 1830s, they have contrived to excuse themselves by pointing to the effects of disease and displacement. Yet although 'genocide' was not a term used in the nineteenth century, 'extermination' was, and many colonists called for the extermination of Aborigines when they impeded settlement by offering resistance. 

*Consciousness of genocide* was suppressed during the twentieth century? until the
later 1960s, when a critical school of historians began serious investigations of frontier violence. Their efforts received official endorsement in the 1990s, but profound cultural barriers prevent the development of a general ‘genocide consciousness’. One of these is 'Holocaust consciousness', which is used by conservative and right-wing figures to play down the gravity of what transpired in Australia. These two aspects of Australian public memory are central to the political humanisation of the country.

This article appears on the first page of results on Google for ‘holocaust consciousness Australia.’

Poorly optimized title/abstract

*Australia's Forgotten Victims*

Ever since the British colonists in *Australia* became aware of the disappearance of the indigenous peoples in the 1830s, they have contrived to excuse themselves by pointing to the effects of disease and displacement. Many colonists called for the extermination of Aborigines when they impeded settlement by offering resistance, yet there was no widespread public acknowledgement of this as a policy until the later 1960s, when a critical school of historians began serious investigations of frontier violence. Their efforts received official endorsement in the 1990s, but profound cultural barriers prevent the development of a general awareness of this. Conservative and right-wing figures continue to play down the gravity of what transpired. These two aspects of *Australian* public memory are central to the political humanisation of the country.

Remember:

- People tend to search for specifics, not just one word - e.g. “women's fiction” not "fiction". So use key phrases rather than individual words in your article title and abstract.
- Key phrases need to make sense within the title and abstract and flow well.
- It is best to focus on a maximum of three or four different keyword phrases in an abstract rather than try to get across too many points.
- Finally, always check that the abstract reads well - remember the primary audience is still the researcher, not a search engine, so write for readers not robots.

**Figures**

Authors may include as many illustrations, photographs, maps and diagrams as they wish. These are all referred to as ‘figures’ and should be numbered consecutively using Arabic numerals (Figure 4, etc.).

Authors are responsible for obtaining permissions and paying any related fees for any figure they wish to include. Please confirm with the *History Compass* Assistant that the image can be included before paying any such fees.
The figure should be submitted in either JPEG or GIF format. The maximum image size that can be loaded onto Manuscript Central is 40 Megapixels. A dpi of 120 is recommended.

Captions should be concise but as informative as possible, and must be typed double spaced and listed on a separate sheet.

Titles should be incorporated into the figure caption, captions should not be a part of the figure and should include any acknowledgements necessary.

Figures and photographs are numbered consecutively using Arabic numerals (Figure 4, etc.). All maps, diagrams, illustrations and photographs are referred to as ‘Figures’ where possible authors should submit original figures with their manuscripts; if this is not possible authors should ensure that the files are of sufficient quality to be viewed without pixel breakdown when they are viewed at 150 to 200% of their original size on screen. Equally, authors should take care that they do not resize and distort original figures.

Whatever format is used authors should ensure that all figures are internally consistent and stylistically similar and they should be aware that colour may serve to enhance differences between figures.

**Short Biography**

Authors should include a short biographical paragraph about themselves. The Biography should be submitted as a separate document and contain a few sentences about each of the following: educational history, recent professional/teaching history, research interests and some information about recent or forthcoming publications.

Here is an example of a well-written biography:

John Doris' research is located at the intersection of psychology, cognitive science, and philosophical ethics; he has authored or co-authored papers in these areas for *Noûs, Bioethics, Cognition, Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, The Encyclopedia of Cognitive Science, The Encyclopedia of Ethics*, and the *Oxford Handbook of Contemporary Analytic Philosophy*. His book *Lack of Character* (Cambridge 2002) argues that reflection on experimental social psychology problematizes familiar philosophical and "folk" conceptions of moral character. Current research involves both theoretical and empirical research on moral responsibility, evaluative diversity, rationality, and the self. He has held fellowships from Michigan's Institute for the Humanities, Princeton's University Center for Human Values, and the National Endowment for the Humanities. Before coming to Washington University in St, Louis, where he presently teaches, Doris taught at the University of Michigan and the University of California, Santa Cruz. He holds a BA in Philosophy from Cornell University and a PhD in Philosophy from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

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Authors of submitted articles are asked to consider the criticisms, suggestions and corrections of the referees and Section Editor(s) and where possible, to address them. The Section Editor(s) will mediate any conflicting reviews.

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You will be sent an email containing a PDF version of your article. At this stage you should correct typesetter errors only.

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History Compass Style Guidelines

All articles must contain an Abstract and a Bibliography.

Oxford Style Manual should be used for inline citations and the list of Works Cited. Examples can be found towards the end of these guidelines.

UK or US style?
UK or US spelling and punctuation may be adopted but, whichever conventions are used, they must be followed consistently throughout.

e.g. UK / US
geographical / geographic
manoeuvre / maneuver
catalogue / catalog
modelled / modeled
centre / center
behaviour / behavior
analyse / analyze

Quotations
Short prose quotations (<30 words) should run on within the normal sentence structure. Long prose quotations (>30 words) should be indented by the normal paragraph indent and do not require quotation marks. They should be set smaller than the normal text type, with no extra space above or below.

Abstract, Endnotes and Bibliography

Every article must have an abstract at the beginning of the manuscript.

References should appear sequentially throughout as endnotes. Endnotes should be in the format 1, 2, 3 rather than i, ii, iii. The endnote format for books, journal articles, book chapters and web references is as below. Ibid may be used, while publisher names should be written out in full, e.g. Cambridge University Press rather than CUP.

A partial/full bibliography must appear after the endnotes, listing all/major texts cited/consulted in alphabetical order by the surname of the first author.

Short Biography
The Short Biography should be inserted after the main text and before Endnotes and Bibliography.

Endnotes Format

NOTE: The History Compass Endnote style can also be downloaded here: ftp://support.isiresearchsoft.com/pub/pc/styles/endnote4/History%20Compass.ens.

Book


**Contribution to a Book**


**Multiple Authors**


**Journal Article**


**Web reference**


**Bibliography Format**


**Bibliography Example**


**Further Style Notes**

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- Please use full stops after an editor abbreviation, i.e. (ed.) or (eds.)
- Please use full stops after a doctor abbreviation, i.e. Dr.
• Please use full stops after et al, eg. R. Stewart et al. (eds.), …
• When a volume number appears between a work's overall title and the volume title, put 'Vol.' in italics with a capital letter (e.g. Collected Essays, Vol. 2, Religion and Politics)
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