



Journals

Perry Willson

- 1) Why publish in journals
- 2) Some general tips on preparing an article
- 3) Choosing a journal and preparing it for submission in that specific journal
- 4) Peer review and how to respond to reviewers' comments
- 5) Open Access

Preparing your Article

- Research question?
- Why is it important/new/worth writing or reading?
- Place in existing historiography?
- Try to research narrowly but think broadly.

- Rewrite – rewrite – rewrite

- Get somebody (more than one person if possible) to read it before submission

- Choose a suitable journal



Specific Journal Rules and ‘House Styles’

- **Only submit to one journal at a time**
- **Find out the rules for that journal and read them very carefully**
- **Check the recommended word count for articles in that journal and stick to it**
- **Put your article into the ‘house style’ for that specific journal**
- **Make sure to anonymise your article in Word before final submission (use Google to find out how to do this)**

Peer Review and Outcomes

- Peer Review = Anonymous reviewing system

Possible Verdicts

- a) *Accept*
- b) *Conditional Acceptance* (i.e. subject to you doing specific revisions) Make sure to follow all the conditions carefully and, if you wish to ignore any of them, discuss this with the journal editor.
- c) *Revise and Resubmit* (i.e. completely rewrite and start again)
- d) *Reject* (you cannot resubmit the article again to this journal. You may be able to try another but you should rewrite it first – you may find you have the same reviewer!)

Open Access and Journal Articles

- Required for REF (Research Excellence Framework)



- Gold (expensive)



- Green (free but only a semi-final version can be open access)

- Detailed guidance on Open Access and REF can be found at:
https://www.ref.ac.uk/media/1228/open_access_summary__v1_0.pdf

Some Useful Links

- <https://www.theguardian.com/education/2015/jan/03/how-to-get-published-in-an-academic-journal-top-tips-from-editors>

Article in the *Guardian* that collates advice from academic journal editors from a range of disciplines. Some of the advice is very useful.

- <http://royalhistsoc.org/early-career-historians/publishing/>

Advice from Professor Peter Mandler – former President of the Royal Historical Society - about how to approach publishing for the first time.