

REVIEWER GUIDELINES

Purpose of Peer Review

Thank you for the effort and expertise that you contribute to reviewing, without which it would be impossible to maintain the quality standards of our publishing house.

Peer review is a critical element of scholarly publication, and one of the major cornerstones of the scientific process. Peer Review serves two key functions:

- Acts as a filter: Ensures research is properly verified before being published
- Improves the quality of the research: rigorous review by other experts helps to hone key points and correct inadvertent errors

Before you accept the role of reviewer, please inform us if there are any potential conflicts of interest between you and the author. A conflict of interest will not necessarily eliminate you from the reviewing process, but full disclosure to the editor will allow them to make an informed decision.

Conducting the Review

Reviewing needs to be conducted confidentially, the article you have been asked to review should not be disclosed to a third party. If you wish to elicit an opinion from colleagues or students regarding the article you should let the editor know beforehand. Most editors welcome additional comments, but whoever else is involved will also need to keep the review process confidential.

You should not attempt to contact the author.

Be aware when you submit your review that any recommendations you make will contribute to the final decision made by the editor.

You will be asked to evaluate the manuscript on a number of criteria including the following:

Originality

Is the work sufficiently novel and interesting to warrant publication? Does it add to the canon of knowledge? Is the research question an important one?

Structure

Is the book clearly laid out? Are all the key elements (where relevant) present: introduction, methodology, results, conclusions?

Language

If the book is poorly written due to grammatical errors, while it may make it more difficult to understand the science, you do **not** need to correct language. You should bring this to the attention of the editor, however.

Previous Research

Does the book reference appropriately the previous research it is built upon? Are there any important works that have been omitted? Are the references accurate?