

Fieldwork in Religion

Guidelines for reviewers

Fieldwork in Religion is a journal that focuses, as the title implies, on the role of fieldwork in Religious Studies. Each edition carries a selection of book reviews that comment on books spanning the following areas: (a) books whose subject-matter is derived from field work; (b) books on methodology relating to field work; (c) books whose subject-matter is likely to impinge on field work.

Books suitable for review should normally have been published within the past two years of the review's appearance. New editions of older books may be considered for review, but only if they contain substantial new material, such as additional chapters.

Book reviews should normally be around 800 words in length. The Reviews Editor is also prepared to commission short notices and review articles by prior agreement. The review should contain a fair indication of the book's content, as well as evaluation and criticism. Comment on the book's relevance to fieldwork in the study of religion would be particularly appropriate.

Reviewers are asked to undertake the following:

(1) Please deliver reviews by the due date. Upon receipt of a review book, you will be given a due date for submitting your review – normally eight weeks, unless a firm date is agreed with the editors.

If you are having difficulty in meeting the deadline, you must contact the Reviews Editor as soon as possible. He or she will decide whether to reassign the book to another reviewer, or whether a new firm date can be agreed.

It is unfair to the author and to the publisher to default on a review. Any book that cannot be reviewed must be returned promptly, so that alternative arrangements can be made.

(2) If you do not wish to write the review, please decline. There are often good reasons for not reviewing a book (e.g. too busy, wrong field of expertise, flattered at having been asked, the author is a friend/enemy). It is better to decline than to deliver an inappropriate review, or to fail to deliver at all.

(3) If you think that a book does not deserve reviewing, please tell us this. It is sometimes difficult to decide whether a book merits a negative review or whether it should be discreetly ignored. Please consult the Reviews Editors if you are in this situation.

(4) Reviews should be headed up with the following details:

Author; title; date; place of publication; publisher; number of pages (front matter and main text); price; ISBN number. Example:

Sutcliffe, S. J. (ed.) (2004). *Religion: Empirical Studies*. Aldershot: Ashgate. xliii + 279 pp. £40.00. ISBN: 0 7546 4158 9.

Additionally, reviewers should provide **five keywords** for their review, for electronic indexing.

(5) Footnotes and bibliographies. Reviews should NOT include footnotes or bibliographies. It is good practice to compare the review book with other works, but please keep all citations in-text.

(6) Delivery. Reviews should be saved in Word, and e-mailed directly to the Reviews Editor. Please do not use the FIR electronic platform, which is for articles.

(7) Unsolicited reviews should not be submitted. Someone else may already have been asked to comment on your suggested book. However, the Reviews Editor welcomes suggestions for possible review books. It is best to consult him/her in advance to ensure that a review copy can be acquired.

(8) Copyright issues. It is considered good practice for a reviewer not to review the same book in different journals. Reviewers should ensure that a review for FIR has not been submitted simultaneously to another journal.

The editors regret that *Fieldwork in Religion* cannot offer payment to reviewers. However, the review book is yours to keep as a token of their thanks.

The Reviews Editor's contact details are:
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