

Information for Contributors

***Modern American History* features scholarly articles on the history of the United States since the 1890s. It welcomes work from scholars representing every sub-discipline of this expansive field, and showcases in particular research that straddles the methods of more than one subfield or otherwise bridges traditional divides. The journal also publishes substantial review essays, forums, and other special features.**

1. Article types

Modern American History welcomes the submission of original research articles of between 8,000 and 14,000 words, including footnotes. Please contact the editorial office at mahist@bu.edu if you have proposals for reviews, forums, or special features.

2. Peer review policy

All articles published in *Modern American History* go through a double blind peer review process in which the identity of the reviewer and the author(s) are always concealed from both parties. To maintain this anonymity we ask that any information or references that could be used to identify you are removed from your manuscript before you submit. There will be an opportunity after peer review to reintroduce elements such as acknowledgments. The journal's editors and independent reviewers evaluate manuscripts on a range of criteria, including relevance, originality, depth of research, and methodological rigor. We aim to provide clear and constructive feedback to all authors.

Articles are first assessed for suitability, novelty, and scholarly significance by the executive editors in consultation with one or more members of the editorial board. Not all articles are accepted for review. If judged appropriate, the work is then sent to outside readers. Authors can expect one of four possible assessments if their work is sent out for peer review: Decline, Revise and Resubmit, Accept with Revision, or Accept. Revise and Resubmit is the assessment most frequently recommended by reviewers.

3. Submitting your manuscript

Articles should be submitted as electronic files (DOC/RTF) via email to the *Modern American History* editorial office at Boston University (mahist@bu.edu).

We ask that you provide the following information alongside your manuscript:

- An abstract of 100-150 words
- A title that should not exceed 15 words
- Up to five keywords describing the content of the article
- Total word count, including footnotes
- Contact details for all named authors, including email address, postal address, affiliation, and telephone number

Submission of an article to *Modern American History* is taken to imply that it is the original, entirely unpublished work of the author(s) and is not under review for publication elsewhere in any form.

4. Formatting

Your manuscript need not follow the full set of *MAH* text conventions when initially submitted. However, to ensure an efficient, accurate and anonymous review process, it is important that the manuscript be presented to a high scholarly standard, meeting the following minimum requirements:

- Written in English
- Double spaced throughout, including footnotes
- Paginated with a one inch margin
- Using embedded footnotes with Arabic numerals. No parenthetical citations.
- Fully anonymized for peer review

If your contribution is accepted you will be responsible for bringing the manuscript into line with the full set of text conventions for *Modern American History*. The journal follows the Chicago Manual of Style.

5. Figures and tables

For the purposes of initial submission, you should include position tables and figures approximately where they fall in the text, including an indication of preferred scale and orientation, numbering and an appropriate caption in each case. If your article is accepted for publication you will be asked to supply high-resolution, digital source files for printing. When resupplying tables, you will need to ensure that every element is accessible for editing – not stored as an image, for example – in order to allow reformatting to match the journal's print specifications. For full details of preferred file specifications and minimum quality thresholds please refer to the [CUP Journal Artwork Guide](#).

If figures are provided in color they will appear in color online but will always be reproduced in black and white in print. Please take note of this, particularly when preparing charts or maps, which may rely upon color coding to be properly interpreted.

6. Datasets, supplementary material and multimedia files

Authors submitting articles based on quantitative empirical data are encouraged to make their datasets available to support future research and allow for data replication. These files will be archived by Cambridge University Press and made available online alongside the published article.

Authors are also encouraged to publish other forms of multimedia supplementary material online wherever it serves to enhance the argument or otherwise enrich an article. This could include, but will not necessarily be limited to, large images, videos and audio files. A full set of file specifications and instructions concerning supplementary material of this kind can be found [here](#).

Supplementary files should be delivered to the editorial office together with the original submission so that they can be considered as part of the peer review process.

7. Copyright in your contribution

Modern American History authors retain their copyright and do not transfer ownership of their contributions to either the journal or the publisher. The only requirement in regard to copyright will be the signing of a copyright license form, upon acceptance, that establishes the author's and publisher's rights in respect to the published article. A copy of this form will be sent to you with instructions explaining how to return it. We encourage you to download and review the form ([available here](#)) before making a submission to ensure all of the terms are acceptable to you.

8. Third-party copyright and permissions

Authors are responsible for obtaining and paying for permission from copyright holders to reproduce any third party materials, including illustrations, tables, figures or lengthy quotations used in the main article or any accompanying supplementary material. A copy of the paperwork granting permission will be required should the contribution be accepted. Please note that *Modern American History* is

distributed globally both in print and online; permission must be gained for international, perpetual, digital re-use as well as print publication.

9. Open access

Modern American History is published under an open access policy that is compliant with all known access mandates issued by funding bodies, governments, and institutions around the world. All authors whose articles are accepted for publication retain the right to post the accepted manuscript version on their departmental website or in any non-commercial open access repository at any time. Please note that the “accepted manuscript” is defined as the fully peer-reviewed version of a paper at the point at which it has been accepted for publication by the journal editors but before it has been sent to the publisher for copyediting and typesetting. A link to the final publisher-produced, paginated “version of record” on the Cambridge University Press website should be included once the article has been formally published.

Where an author is required by their funding body or institution to make the publisher PDF or “version of record” freely available online to non-subscribers, or publish their article under any form of Creative Commons license, this is possible but subject to the payment of an Article Publishing Charge (APC). It is not necessary to communicate this requirement upon submission, and it will have no bearing on the peer review process or editorial decision. Authors will be asked to let Cambridge University Press know of this requirement once an article has been accepted. More information about the APC price and licensing choices can be found [here](#).

10. First View online ahead of print publishing

Articles are published online as individual, standalone items with static digital object identifiers (DOIs) as soon as they have been through the production and proofing process. We do not wait for the next edition. When an issue is published, the appropriate articles are gathered together, repaginated, reorganized online and printed as a conventional issue. This approach to publishing reduces the time authors are required to wait before publication and delivers citable research to the community without delay.

11. Digital offprints

Authors of articles will receive a PDF of the final version of their article upon publication. Please note that print offprints are not supplied.

If you have any questions please contact the editorial office at mahist@bu.edu.

(Last updated March 2017)