

The New Rambler

General Guidelines for Reviewers

1. We accept reviews up to 4,000 words. If you wish to write a longer review, please check with your editor. You may consider writing (1) a short review of the type that appears in many academic journals (usually fewer than 1,000 words), which gives a brief summary and some criticisms, emphasizing a bottom-line assessment of the book's contribution (or lack of contribution); or (2) a long review, in the style of the (old) TNR or NYRB, where the reviewer takes the time to put the book in context and engages more elaborately with the book's argument.
2. Books suitable for review include academic press books, books written by academics, books on scholarly or intellectual topics, interesting and worthy books of all kinds. Reviewers should avoid books that are excessively specialized; the (old) TNR and NYRB can be used as models. We accept reviews of books in the area of the humanities (including literary fiction), social sciences, law, history, theology, politics, natural sciences, and political philosophy. The book should normally have been published in the last year or two, but we accept reviews of a neglected classic that deserves a wider audience or other important book from the past.
3. If you propose a book, check with your editor to ensure that it has not already been assigned to another Reviewer.
4. You will need to purchase the book yourself or to borrow it from a library. You may also try requesting a review copy from the publisher. Once we are established, we may be able to supply Reviewers with review copies in some cases.
5. We will be unable to offer compensation.
6. Try to complete your review within a month or two. Send it to your editor. Depending on your arrangements with your editor, editing might be light or heavy.
7. Reviews will be posted on the website in the order that they are received. We will probably space them out at first so there is no more than one or two per week.
8. Avoid puff pieces and hatchet-jobs. We will return to you any reviews with name-calling, ad hominem attacks, defamation, incivility, and so on, in our sole discretion.

Style Guidelines

1. Write for a general, educated audience. You can use The New York Review of Books as a model if you want.
2. No footnotes; hyperlinks are fine.

3. If you quote the book you are reviewing, include the page number in parentheses.
4. Include a short biography of yourself (no more than a couple lines). You might mention your affiliation, recent books published, etc. Feel free to include a link to your website if you have one.

Republication

Our agreement to publish your review is conditional on your agreement:

1. Not to post your review on the web until at least a week after it appears on NRR.
2. A suitable statement giving credit to NRR at the beginning or end of the piece, or in the acknowledgments section of a book, with a link if the review is published on the web.

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