Guidelines for Publications

Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures (CSMC)
University of Hamburg

Artefact of the Month (AoM)
Wiebke Beyer and Karin Becker
wiebke.beyer@uni-hamburg.de and karin.becker@uni-hamburg.de

manuscript cultures (mc)
Irina Wandrey
irina.wandrey@uni-hamburg.de

Studies in Manuscript Cultures (SMC)
Caroline Macé
caroline.mace@uni-hamburg.de

Written Artefacts as Cultural Heritage
Doreen Schröter
doreen.schroeter@uni-hamburg.de

1 Language and style

The language we use in all our publications is British English. In general, we follow the rules of the New Oxford Style Manual. Native speakers of other varieties of English may use their own orthography.

Non-native English speakers should have their manuscripts checked carefully by a native English speaker before submitting their work for publication. If necessary, we can assist you with this task: please ask the person responsible for the publication about it.

Fonts: Use Times New Roman (12-point) for the whole text. Use as little formatting as possible (no indentation, no spacing and no automatic lists). The whole text (including all the headings and subheads) should be flush left.

Footnotes: To make footnotes (which should be positioned at the bottom of each page), only use the automatic way provided by your word-processing program. Footnote symbols should either come after a punctuation mark or straight after the term to which they refer. It is impossible to attach a note to a title or subtitle in SMC volumes, however (a preliminary note is allowed, but without a number or sign).

Emphasis: To emphasise words, only use italics, not bold characters or underlining. Foreign words that have not been adopted in English or are considered uncommon should be written in italics; an English translation may immediately follow in round brackets (parentheses), but in normal type and surrounded by single quotation marks.

Dashes: These should be distinguished from hyphens as they have different functions: long hyphens should be used in dates, for instance, as in ‘1992–1998’, and in page ranges like ‘on pp. 52–60’ (use the ‘en’ dash to indicate a range), while short hyphens are used to link parts of words together, as in ‘T-shirt’ and ‘pre-eminent’. An ‘en’ dash can be used in a sentence to add extra information, sometimes as an afterthought. Always write it with a space to the left and right of it. Do not use ‘em’ dashes unless you are an American author.

Headings: Your manuscript will be divided into sections and possibly even subsections. These should all be labelled with left-justified headings (with capitalisation of the first word and proper nouns only) and they should be numbered as well (as in ‘1 Introduction’, ‘1.1 Subtitle’, etc.).
**Capitalisation:** Historical periods should be capitalised (e.g. ‘the Middle Ages’, the ‘Early Modern Period’). Nouns and adjectives relating to movements derived from personal nouns are capitalised (e.g. ‘Platonism’, ‘Christian’). Note this use of capitalisation in names (nouns), but not adjectives: ‘the Bible’, but ‘biblical’, not ‘Biblical’; ‘south’ and ‘south-east’ (with a hyphen), but ‘South Dakota’, ‘South-east Asia’; and specifically in people’s titles, but not in general: ‘Cardinal Newman’, but ‘a cardinal’, etc. Capitalise references to particular parts of a book (‘Fig. 1’; ‘Table 2’; ‘Chap. 1’ – plural: Figs, Tables, Chaps).

**Abbreviations:** Use as few abbreviations as possible and explain all those you feel are necessary (either after the first occurrence or in a special section of the bibliography). Avoid the abbreviation ‘ibid.’. Write ‘thirteenth century’ in full rather than abbreviating it (except in tables).

Commonly used abbreviations:
- b. (birth / born)
- c. (not ca.) – it should be italicised
- c. (century) (but it is preferable to write this word in full)
- cf. (compare with; not ‘see’)
- col. (column) / cols (columns)
- d. (died)
- ed. (editor / edited) / eds (editors) / edn (edition)
- e.g. (for example; not in italics, with a comma before, but not after the abbreviation)
- fol. (folio) / fols (folios): fol. 4’ (with r or v in superscript)
- l. / ll. (line(s))
- n. (footnote(s))
- no. / nos (number(s))
- p. / pp. (page(s))
- r. (reigned or ruled)

**Eras:** Write BCE / CE in small caps (not BC and AD). When using other calendars, such as the Jewish, Buddhist or Muslim calendar (AM, BE, AH), the dates should always be supplemented by corresponding BCE/CE dates.

**Numbers / dates:** Apart from in tables and lists of figures, express numbers below 100 in words (cf. Chap. 11 of the *New Oxford Style Manual*). As for centuries, it is preferable to write ‘in the eleventh century’ or ‘in an eleventh-century manuscript’ rather than using numerals.

**2 Non-Latin scripts and Romanisation**

Only use Unicode fonts. If this is an issue, please contact the person responsible for the publication for advice.

Texts should be written in their original script. In the case of short passages or isolated words, it may be useful to provide a scholarly transliteration in Latin script. Use the system of transliteration which is the standard one in your field and indicate which standard you have been using in a footnote next to the first transliteration or at the beginning of your article.

The following sets of rules may be of help:
- Caucasian languages: http://titus.uni-frankfurt.de/didact/caucasus/geoarmsc.pdf
- Hebrew, Yiddish, Ladino: use a consistent transliteration based on the *Encyclopaedia Judaica online version* (2007)
- Indic languages: http://titus.uni-frankfurt.de/didact/idg/indi/devanaga.pdf
- Japanese: Modified Hepburn system, in Kenkyūsha’s *New Japanese–English Dictionary*
- Korean: revised McCune-Reischauer system or Revised Romanisation of Korean (National Academy of the Korean Language)
- Slavic languages: http://titus.uni-frankfurt.de/didact/idg/slav/slavalpx.pdf
Even common names that have entered English vocabulary should be Romanised according to the same rules, e.g. Tora (and not Torah), Qur’an (and not Quran), Gilgameš (and not Gilgamesh), etc.

3 Quotations

Quotations from a primary source in the main part of the text should be presented initially in the original language and script (a transcription in Latin script may be provided as well if deemed necessary). A translation in modern English should be provided in brackets or in a footnote after the quotation. If you use an existing translation, provide the exact reference to it, otherwise indicate that it is your own translation. Indicate the sources of the quotation in a footnote or in brackets in the text.

When quoting a source, make sure you transcribe the words and punctuation faithfully. To add information or paraphrasing for clarity, use square brackets: [ ]. To skip a section of the source material, use ellipses: [...]. The editorial note [sic] should only be used to indicate that something has been quoted as it was found, including any mistakes it contains.

Short quotes of up to thirty words should be integrated into the body text within single quotation marks (‘’). Use double quotation marks for a quotation within a quotation. Punctuation generally goes outside quotation marks.

Longer quotes of more than two lines should be formatted as block quotes (10-point, block indentation on the left) without any quotation marks.

4 Tables, images and illustrations

Each table or figure should have a short heading and numbering (Fig. 1, Table 1). Note that the type area of an SMC volume is 116 × 183 mm, which makes long tables difficult to accommodate.

Figures should be sent as extra files (preferably as JPEGs; only use TIFF for grey-scale images and pixel graphics). A minimum resolution of 300 dpi is required. A minimum of 1300 pixels in the width is required for SMC volumes.

The files should be named so that they can be easily identified (e.g. ‘contributorXXX_Fig1.jpg’).

Use place-holders such as this one to indicate where an image or a table should be put in the text:

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Insert [file name] here.

Fig. 1: image subject / place / date / shelf mark.

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Put the image (or its place-holder) as closely as possible to where it is cited in the text and indicate the format you would prefer: full-page, half-page, third of a page, etc. Provide short captions that are clear.

It is the author’s/editor’s responsibility to obtain usage rights to third-party text material, images or tables. If necessary, we can provide assistance in this matter: please contact the person responsible. Provide a list of images and figures at the end of the article, along with their respective credit or copyright.

A list of figures mentioning the credits (and possibly with a more elaborate description than in the captions) could also be provided at the end of the article or book.

5 Written artefacts (manuscripts, inscriptions and other types)

Do not add ‘MS’ to the shelf mark if this is not officially part of it; follow the way each librarycatalogues its own manuscripts. The canonical form of a shelf mark is normally as follows: (1) name of city (in English), (2) name of library (in the original language; in Romanised form if in a non-Latin
script; if there is a canonical abbreviation, that abbreviation can be used), (3) collection (if any), (4) identification number:

  e.g. Vatican City, BAV, Vat. gr. 1612.

Don’t put manuscript names in italics.

Always write the word ‘manuscript’ in full, except in tables or long lists, in which the abbreviation ‘MS’ (or pl. ‘MSS’) can be used.

6 Bibliographical references

If necessary, provide an alphabetic list of sigla and/or abbreviations used and put it before the bibliographical references.

Any literature you quote should be referred to in the footnotes in an abbreviated form. The system of abbreviation is as follows: author’s surname + year, pages. For most Asiatic authors their full name should be used, not just their surname (see below for examples). If more than one work from the same author and in the same year are quoted, they should be distinguished by adding ‘a’, ‘b’, ‘c’, etc. to the year of publication. Don’t uses dashes or abbreviations such as ibid., op. cit., id., ead., f. or ff. (for ‘following’). Use ‘et al.’ in this short form when the number of authors is more than three.

A list of cited works with full bibliographical information should be provided in alphabetical order at the end of each article. Remove any hyperlinks in the URLs you quote (write these in the shortest possible form and between pointed brackets: < >) and add the date when the site was last accessed: ‘accessed on 22 April 2020’ (avoid just using digits here as they can be misleading). If you quote lots of URLs in your article and you accessed them all on the same date, you can state that date once in a note at the beginning of the article.

Use the English name of the city where the article or book was published (if the publishing house has more than one head office, just name the main one). Provide the name of the publisher as far as possible (words such as Verlag, Éditions, Publishing House, etc. should be omitted if they are unnecessary).

If such information is missing, use the following abbreviations: s.n. (sine nomine = no publishing house), s.l. (sine loco = no place), s.a. (sine anno = no year).

For bibliographical items written in a non-Latin script, provide the name(s) of the author(s) and the title (of the book or article) in the original script, followed by a Romanised version of it (see point 2 above); an English translation does not need to be included. The title of the journal (and possibly of the series in which the book is published) may either be provided in the original script, followed by a Romanised version of it, or just in a Romanised form.

All information apart from titles should be translated into English and standardised,


Depending on the tradition of scholarship you follow, it may be desirable to divide the bibliographical list into ‘primary sources’ and ‘secondary literature’.

Monographs


Amari, Michele (1854), *Storia dei Musulmani di Sicilia*, vol. 1, Florence: Felice Le Monnier.

Abbreviated form: Sbordone 1936a, xlv–lvi.

Abbreviated form: Sbordone 1936b, 15.

Abbreviated form: *Fabricius’s Dictionary* 1972, s.v. ‘vēli’

Collective volumes


Academic qualification works


Journal articles


Monographs published as a journal’s special issue


Book chapters

Abbreviated form: Travaini and D’Ottone Rambach 2019, 265.

If the same collective book is quoted several times, you may prefer to refer to it this way:


**Online publications**

Provide a doi or failing that a URL address for publications which are only internet-based, but not for printed publications that are also available in internet archives. If you quote a doi address, mentioning the date of access is superfluous.

**Online journals**


**A record in a database**

With the author’s name:


Without mentioning the author:


**Second edition, reprint, translation, etc.**


Abbreviated form: Maas 1957.


**7 Acknowledgements**

In SMC volumes a special section at the end of the introduction or the end of the article (but before the bibliographic references) may be used to acknowledge funding, practical or linguistic help, etc.

**8 Indices**

Indices are not compulsory, but may be added if they are useful: an index of manuscripts or artefacts, an index of authors and texts (possibly of incipits) or a general index mentioning people, places, notable concepts or events.
The indices should be prepared by the author or editor of the volume on the basis of the final proofs. When you submit your manuscript, please indicate whether indices should be provided.

9 Specifications for collective volumes (SMC) and for edited sections in *manuscript cultures*

Each contribution should begin with the name of the author, the title of the article and a short abstract of it (5–10 lines long). No affiliation should be added at this point, but do send this information to the editor, who will prepare a list of authors with their respective affiliation and email address, which will be printed at the end of the book.

Each article should be sent as a separate Word file. In addition to the Word files, a PDF version of the documents is also requested as a reference to clearly display any special characters or non-Latin fonts. Different peer-reviewers may be assigned to each contribution in a collective volume or journal section.