Guidelines for Submissions

PUBLISHER

The Amish & Plain Anabaptist Studies Association (APASA) and the University of Akron publish and support JAPAS. Authors are charged neither a submission nor a publication fee.

PREPARATION

At the time of submission, include the following:

1. An anonymous copy of your submission. File types should be .doc, .docx, or .rtf. Pieces should open with a title and original abstract that does not duplicate article text. Remove all identifying information from the title page, headers / footers, and the file data/information. If an author is self-cited more than three times or refers to self-citations in first person, anonymize these citations for the submission.

2. A title page in a separate file. Include the following information: article title, author(s), author positions and affiliations, abstract, key words, word count inclusive of all content, and acknowledgements (if any). If any conflicts of interest exist or similar publications (e.g. using the same data) are under review or published in another venue, please disclose these on the title page.

3. A short cover letter. Explain briefly what you are submitting, why you are submitting to JAPAS, and any other comments.

TYPES OF PUBLICATIONS ACCEPTED

Original research articles fully develop a topic with a sufficient literature review, theoretical perspective, and methodology. Regular articles range from 5,000 to 10,000 words inclusive of tables, figures, endnotes, and references, although longer articles will be considered. Peer reviewed.

Research notes are articles that do not develop a theoretical perspective, have a limited methodology, are shorter than regular articles, or have a limited impact on Amish and plain Anabaptist studies. Peer reviewed.

Service provider reports are peer-reviewed articles that discuss a practical project or program working with the plain people. The intention of these reports is to inform readers about the activity, to reflect on successes and challenges, and to document any new milestones achieved through this activity. Service provider reports may focus on legal challenges, mental and physical health, education, community involvement, safety, public participation, planning, and other non-commercial engagement with plain people. Peer reviewed.

Briefs are very short pieces (under 1,500 words) that share research developments, original findings from a small or preliminary study, or short service provider projects. Briefs have limited literature reviews and are peer reviewed in-house. Undergraduates or early graduates with original data collection are especially encouraged to submit a research brief. Peer reviewed.
**Symposiums** are a forum for a series of short papers debating a topic or monograph of significance. While usually organized by the editorial staff, symposium proposals are welcome.

**Review essays** compare and contrast a body of literature, such as books or debates. Review essays are longer than book reviews and devote more time to weighing the contributions rather than strictly summarizing. Literature may span a much longer and broader interval than a standard book review. Review essays do not have original data.

**Book reviews** provide an overview with a critical perspective of a new book. Publishers seeking to have a book reviewed should contact the editor. Reviewers are assigned by the editorial staff. While books reviewed are ordinarily academic books, others about plain Anabaptists of interest to scholars may also be reviewed.

**Research from plain people:** The journal welcomes the empirical research of members from plain Anabaptist communities, who are invited to submit manuscripts for special consideration. Research from plain people need not be framed strictly according to academic research styles, but can be written in a more familiar style. Peer reviewed.

**Letters to the editor:** Letters should address *JAPAS* content or salient issues in Amish and plain Anabaptist studies. Letters are not peer reviewed and are published at the Journal’s discretion. Letters should be short and contain minimal references.

**REFERENCING STYLE**

Manuscripts under consideration do not need to conform to the following guidelines at the time of submission. However, if the article is accepted, the author(s) are responsible for conforming to this style.

Citation and referencing style is similar to the American Journal of Sociology.

Given the multi-disciplinary nature of our subject matter, authors may use the Chicago Manual of Style (Turbian) when the AJS style would force an unnatural fit, as with articles where frequent primary sources are referenced. A bibliography is still required and editorial approval in advance is recommended.

**Book**


**Article**


**Chapter from an edited volume**


**Dissertation, thesis, or unpublished paper**


**Conference Presentation:**


**Directory**


**Website**

Bender, Harold, Adolf Ens, and Jake Peters. 1990. “Sommerfeld Mennonites.” *Global Anabaptist Mennonite Encyclopedia*
Webpages should only be referenced in the text and bibliography if the content has named authorship and is from a peer-reviewed source, such as an online encyclopedia. Popular sites such as news articles and blogs or content with unattributed authorship should be used sparingly and referenced in endnotes as such: Accessed May 17, 2016 (URL).

**In-text Citations**

Citations: One author: (Jolly 2007)

Two authors: (Olshan and Hall 1991)

Three authors: (Bender, Ens, and Peters 1990)

Four or more authors: (Kusnetzky, et al. 1995)

Page citations: (Fishman 1988, pp. 121-22)

Multiple citations: (Fishman 1988, pp. 121-22; Jolly 2007; Olshan and Hall 1991)

In-text citations with a quote and author mentioned: Martin (1976) concluded that, “The Amish are a religious group” (p. 94). However, Miller (1982, p. 36) feels that Martin’s conclusion is premature.

Authors’ middle initials are not used, unless important to identify the person (e.g. John Q. Martin). Always identify a state or country with publication location (e.g. New York, NY; London, UK).

**WEBSITE**

For more information about the journal, visit our professional association’s website at:

http://amishstudies.org