Instructions for Authors

Scope

The *Journal of Arabic Literature* (*JAL*) is the leading journal specializing in the study of Arabic literature, ranging from the pre-Islamic period to the present. Founded in 1970, *JAL* seeks critically and theoretically engaged work at the forefront of the field, written for a global audience comprised of the specialist, the comparatist, and the student alike. *JAL* publishes critical literary studies as well as book reviews and review essays on Arabic literature broadly understood—classical and modern, written and oral, poetry and prose, formal and colloquial, monolingual and multilingual, whether written in Arabic or engaging Arabic canons, genres, literary histories, and/or theoretical concepts—as well as work situated in comparative and interdisciplinary studies.

Ethical and Legal Conditions

The publication of a manuscript in a peer-reviewed journal is expected to follow standards of ethical behavior for all parties involved in the act of publishing: authors, editors, and reviewers. Authors, editors, and reviewers should thoroughly acquaint themselves with Brill’s publication ethics, which may be downloaded here: brill.com/page/ethics/publication-ethics-cope-compliance.

Online Submission

*JAL* now uses online submission only. Authors should submit their manuscript online via the Editorial Manager (EM) online submission system at: editorialmanager.com/jalbrill. First-time users of EM need to register first. Go to the website and click on the "Register Now" link in the login menu. Enter the information requested. During registration, you will be asked to fill in your username and password. If you should forget your Username and Password, click on the "send login details" link in the login section, and enter your e-mail address exactly as you entered it when you registered. Your access codes will then be e-mailed to you.

When submitting via the website, you will be guided stepwise through the creation and uploading of the various files. A revised document is uploaded the same way as the initial submission. The system automatically generates an electronic (PDF) proof, which is then used for reviewing purposes. All correspondence, including the editor’s request for revision and final decision, is sent by e-mail.

Double-Blinded Peer Review for Academic and Scholarly Submissions

*JAL* uses a double-blind peer review system, which means that manuscript author(s) do not know who the reviewers are, and that reviewers do not know the names of the author(s). When you submit your article via Editorial Manager, you will be asked to submit a separate title page that includes the full title.
Instructions for Authors

of the manuscript, the names and complete contact details of all authors, the abstract, keywords, and any acknowledgement texts. This page will not be accessible to the referees. All other files (manuscript, figures, tables, etc.) should not contain any information concerning author names, institutions, etc. The names of these files and the document properties should also be anonymized. Please allow up to six months for completion of the peer-review process.

File Format
Submissions should include three files: the title page file (with author's name, contact details, and institutional affiliation), a Word document containing the complete text of the article, and an anonymized PDF of the same (i.e., without any self-reference) with all diacritics showing correctly. The article itself should not contain any references that identify the author of the piece. You may of course quote previously published work of your own, but you should do so in the third person and without identifying yourself. If the article is accepted for publication, you may change these references to the first person during the revisions process if you wish.

Contact Address
For any questions or problems relating to your manuscript please contact the Editor, Professor Muhsin al-Musawi, at: ma2188@columbia.edu. For questions about Editorial Manager, authors can also contact the Brill EM Support Department at: support-em@brill.com.

Submission Requirements

Many thanks for your interest in the Journal of Arabic Literature. For your convenience, below is a detailed style guide to which you should refer as you prepare your manuscript for submission.

General
The submission should be double-spaced throughout, with all pages consecutively numbered. The full address and contact details of the author should appear on a separate cover sheet. Manuscripts should be submitted in final publishable form including full and correct transliteration of all Arabic words, and with complete bibliographic references provided for all sources. Manuscripts not conforming to these guidelines may be summarily rejected or returned to the author for reformatting.

Articles should preferably be written by a single author.

Language
Manuscripts should be written in American English. Spelling should be consistent throughout. While all accepted articles will go through a rigorous editorial process before being published in JAL, authors
should ensure that their manuscripts conform to the highest standards of English-language academic style and citational practices prior to submission.

Transliteration

- All emphatic letters are represented with a dot beneath, and all long vowels should have a line above. Doubled consonants should be typed twice.
- Please represent the tā’ marbūṭah as -ah, or -at where appropriate in an iḍāfah construction.
- Nisbah adjectives should end in -iyyah.
- Names of cities should appear in their most common English spelling (e.g., Beirut, not Bayrūt, etc.).
- When referring to publications in Arabic, please transliterate the author's name according to the system below. For publications in other languages, please use the spelling of the author’s name as it appears in the source. Even if you are quoting from a translation, please retain the transliterated spelling of the author’s name throughout (except in the footnotes, where the name should appear exactly as it does in the source).
- Please be sure to use the correct symbols for ‘ayn and hamzah (as below), and not single quotation marks.
- The definite article al- is lowercase everywhere, except when it is the first word of a sentence.
- Inseparable prepositions, conjunctions, and other prefixes in Arabic (such as bi-, wa-, li-, la-) should be connected to the following word by a hyphen. When one of these prepositions or conjunctions is followed by al-, the a will elide, forming a contraction rendered as wa-l-, bi-l-, li-l-, and la-l- (e.g., al-ajāʾīb wa-l-gharāʾīb).
- Initial hamza is never transliterated.

Letters should be represented in transliteration as follows:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{i/} & \quad \text{ā} \\
\text{t} & \quad \text{b} \\
\text{ṭ} & \quad \text{t} \\
\text{ṭh} & \quad \text{th} \\
\text{j} & \quad \text{j} (\text{g may be used in transliterating Egyptian names}) \\
\text{h} & \quad \text{ḥ} \\
\text{k} & \quad \text{kh} \\
\text{d} & \quad \text{dh} \\
\text{r} & \quad \text{r} \\
\text{ẓ} & \quad \text{z}
\end{align*}
\]
Instructions for Authors

Length
Articles should be approximately 8,000-11,000 words in length.

Manuscript Structure

Abstract and Keywords
All articles must include an abstract. The abstract should be 100-150 words, and should not use the same phrasing as will appear in the article. The article (for instance, in its introduction) should not assume that the reader has read the abstract.

All articles must also include a list of keywords. Please include 5–10 keywords for your article. You can look at past issues of JAL for a sense of what sorts of keywords authors have used.

Affiliation
Please include your name exactly as you wish it to appear in print, along with the name of the institution with which you will be affiliated at the time of publication.
Acknowledgments

We kindly ask that authors refrain from thanking family members, or the editors and outside readers of the *Journal of Arabic Literature*; and that authors keep the length of acknowledgments to a minimum.

**Titles**

- Titles of articles, poems, and short stories should appear between double quotation marks. If you are including the English translation of an Arabic title of an article, poem, or short story, it should appear between parentheses after the first mention of the title, and only take quotes if it has been published in English translation under this title. If it has not, the translated title should appear between parentheses only (without quotation marks).

- For book titles, including book-length poems, please use italics. If you include a translation of a book title, it should appear between parentheses, and in italics only if the translation has been published.

- For book titles in English, please capitalize all nouns and verbs. Prepositions, connectors, and “a” and “the” should not be capitalized.

- For all non-English titles, be they in Arabic, French, Spanish, or any other language, only the first word in the title should be capitalized, along with place names and names of people. The exception to this is Arabic journal titles that begin with the definite article, for which the initial Al- should always be capitalized, e.g., Al-Jīnān and not al-Jīnān.

- Please provide the original date of publication for all literary texts at first mention.

**Quotations**

Classical Arabic poetry presented in two columns in the original should be placed within the manuscript with the two hemistiches in each line separated by a series of three ellipses. The text will be formatted into “true” columns at the typesetting stage prior to publication.

**Block Quotes**

All block quotes in Arabic or any Arabic quote longer than three words should not be transliterated, but rather typed in Arabic. You can send a separate PDF, with points of insertion numbered in the body of the article and the PDF itself, if the Arabic font does not display properly in the text file.

When providing block quotes in English translation, please also include the original Arabic text for the passages you are citing whenever possible (especially when citing poetry, classical texts, or previously unpublished material), either in the body of your essay or in a footnote.

**Citations**

*JAL* uses the *Chicago Manual of Style* ([chicagomanualofstyle.org](http://chicagomanualofstyle.org)) for citations. Please use footnotes.
rather than endnotes. Please do not include a Works Cited. Please note that “p.” and “pp.” are not used in citations in the Chicago system to refer to page numbers. Also, please note that Ibid. refers only to the footnote immediately previous. If you are citing the same page in the next footnote, you can simply use “Ibid.” for the entire footnote. If you are citing the same work, but a different page, please write “Ibid., x.” After the first full citation of an article, book, etc., please refer to it only by the author’s last name. You should also include a shortened version of the title (one or two words) if you refer in the article to more than one work by the same author.

Page ranges in footnotes should be designated with an en dash rather than a hyphen, e.g., Mahfūz, 15–18.

**Book, Single Author**


**Translation**


**Chapter in an Edited Volume**


**Journal Article**


**Book Reviews**

Book reviews should be formatted as follows:

**Author**

*Title*. Series Title. City of publication: Publisher. ### pages, with illustrations. Cloth $. Paperback $.

**Reviewer Name**

Affiliation

@email
Publication

Proofs
Upon acceptance, a PDF of the article proofs will be sent to the author by e-mail to check carefully for factual and typographic errors. In the event of a multi-authored contribution, proofs are sent to the first-named author unless otherwise requested. Authors are responsible for checking these proofs and are strongly urged to make use of the Comment & Markup toolbar to note their corrections directly on the proofs. At this stage in the production process only minor corrections are allowed. Alterations to the original manuscript at this stage will result in considerable delay in publication and, therefore, are not accepted unless charged to the author. Proofs should be returned promptly.

E-Offprints
A PDF file of the article will be supplied free of charge by the publisher to authors for personal use. Brill is a RoMEO yellow publisher. The Author retains the right to self-archive the submitted (pre-peer-review) version of the article at any time. The submitted version of an article is the author’s version that has not been peer-reviewed, nor had any value added to it by Brill (such as formatting or copy editing). The Author retains the right to self-archive the accepted (peer-reviewed) version without any embargo period. The accepted version means the version that has been accepted for publication and contains all revisions made after peer reviewing and copy editing, but has not yet been typeset in the publisher’s lay-out. The publisher’s lay-out must not be used in any repository or on any website (brill.com/resources/authors/publishing-books-brill/self-archiving-rights).

License to Publish

Transfer of Copyright
By submitting a manuscript, the author agrees that the copyright for the article is transferred to the publisher if and when the article is accepted for publication. For that purpose the author needs to sign the License to Publish form which will be sent with the first proofs of the manuscript.

Open Access
Should the author wish to publish their article as Open Access, they can choose the Brill Open option. This allows for non-exclusive Open Access publication under a Creative Commons license in exchange for an Article Publication Charge (APC), upon signing a special Brill Open Consent to Publish Form. More information on Brill Open can be found on brill.com/brillopen.