Instructions for Authors

Scope

Aries is the first academic journal specifically devoted to the study of esotericism. The journal publishes scholarly work, both empirically and theoretically driven, on all aspects of esoteric currents from antiquity to the present day, unrestrained by geographical and cultural location, and from a range of approaches in the humanities and social sciences. Esotericism is understood pragmatically as an umbrella term that covers a variety of historical currents, including but not limited to Gnosticism, Hermetism, theurgy, the Islamic science of letters, the "occult sciences" (magic, alchemy, astrology), kabbalah, Paracelsianism, Rosicrucianism, theosophy, illuminism, spiritualism and occultism, tantra and yoga, psychical research, traditionalism, neopaganism, alternative spiritualities, conspirituality, popular occulture, etc. *Aries* is a double-blind peer-reviewed journal publishing articles and book reviews in English, French, German, and Italian.

Ethical and Legal Conditions

The publication of a manuscript in a peer-reviewed work 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

The Journal uses online submission, except for Book reviews, which may be submitted directly via e-mail to the book review editor, Dr. Yves Mühlematter, at yves.muehlematter@uzh.ch.

For all full-length articles, authors should submit their manuscript online via the Editorial Manager (EM) online submission system at: editorialmanager.com/arie/default.asp. 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 can fill in your username and password.

If you should forget your Username and Password, click on the "Send Username/Password" link in the login section, and enter your first name, last name and email address exactly as you had entered it when you registered. Your access codes will then be e-mailed to you.

Prior to submission, authors are encouraged to read the "Instructions for Authors." 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.

Aries

Journal for the Study of Western Esotericism

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The Peer Review Process

Aries uses a rigorous double-anonymous 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). Following an internal process (see below), manuscripts are reviewed by at least two external blind reviewers. To protect the integrity of the review process, Editorial Manager will ask you to submit a separate title page which includes the full title 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.

Aries expects all submissions to be written in clear and grammatically correct prose, adhere to the journal's style guide, and fit the journal's scope. The editors reserve the right to reject without peer review manuscripts that do not meet these basic criteria. Submissions are first subjected to internal review by members of the editorial board, who decide whether the manuscript should be sent for external review or be desk-rejected. Manuscripts rejected by the board will be returned with a brief written statement of the reasons for rejection.

Contact Address

For any questions or problems relating to your manuscript please contact the Editorial Office: *Aries*, Dr. Egil Asprem: egil.asprem@rel.su.se. For eventual questions about Editorial Manager, authors can also contact the Brill EM Support Department at: support-em@brill.com.

Submission Requirements

Types of Contributions

Aries welcomes four types of contributions: *research articles* presenting original empirical or theoretical research on esoteric currents, broadly conceived; *target articles* focusing on a salient issue of broader significance in the field and published with open peer commentaries and a response; *review articles* discussing a number of related works on a specific topic in the field; and *book reviews* reviewing a recent monograph or anthology relevant to the field. Occasionally it may also publish letters and replies. As the flagship journal in the study of esotericism, *Aries* especially encourages contributions that actively engage with debates on how esotericism ought to be conceptualized, defined, and theorized, from the vantage of any disciplinary perspective in the humanities and social sciences.

Language

Articles may be submitted in English (British or American), French, German, and Italian. Spelling and punctuation in the language used should be consistent throughout.

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Length

As a rule, research articles, target articles, and review articles should be between 5.000 and 10.000 words. Target articles will in addition be published with commentaries of approximately 500 to 1.000 words each and a response of no more than 3.000 words. Book reviews should be between 1.000 and 1.500 words.

Special Issues

Aries publishes guest edited special issues on specific topics in the study of esotericism, typically once per year. Please contact the editor-in-chief if you wish to suggest a special issue.

Manuscript Structure

The text should be as "flat" as possible; please emphasize words, phrases and titles of books by *italicizing,* but avoid **bold** and <u>underlining</u>. Unnecessary capitalization should also be avoided.

Abstracts and Keywords

All articles, irrespective of language, must be accompanied by an abstract in English between 100 and 150 words, as well as up to six selected key words.

Biographical Statement

Every article must be accompanied by a short autobiographical statement mentioning the author's year of birth, institutional affiliation, and ORCID number (if available).

Figures

Articles may contain illustrations if these are clearly relevant to the argument, and referred to in the main text. Images should be provided in electronic format. Line drawings should have a minimum resolution of 600 dpi [dots per inch]. Photographs should have a minimum resolution of 300 dpi. The file format should be .tif(f), .bmp or .eps.

Bibliography and Footnotes

Articles must contain a complete alphabetically-ordered bibliography at the end of the main text, according to the following format.
- *Books*: Author, A.B., *This is the Title of his Book: This is the Subtitle*, City: Publisher Year.
- *Articles in Journals*: Author, A.B., 'This is the Title of the Article', *Journal* 5:1 (2022), 100-120.
- *Articles in Books*: Author, A.B., 'This is the Title of the Article', in: Editor, A.B. (ed.), *This is the Title of the Collective Volume*, City: Publisher Year, 100-120.

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Footnotes should be numbered consecutively for the whole article. Footnote numbers in the text should follow both quotation marks and punctuation marks. For example: This sentence contains "one quotation";[1] and ends with a footnote and a full stop.[2]

They must refer to the bibliography by giving the author's family name, an abbreviated title of the publication, followed by page nr(s). For example:

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Quotations

Always use single quotation marks ('x') for relatively short direct quotations.

Longer quotations should be presented as a separate block of text, indented on the left, preceded and followed by a blank line, and printed in characters of normal size; such longer quotations are *not* enclosed in quotation marks.

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Reviews may be submitted directly via e-mail to the book review editor, Dr. Yves Mühlematter, at yves.muehlematter@uzh.ch.

Publication

Proofs

Upon acceptance, an article proof will be sent to authors by e-mail to check carefully for factual and typographic errors. 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.

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