



***Centaurus* Author guidelines**

1. SUBMISSION

Authors are welcome to submit any original manuscript that fits the aims and scope of *Centaurus* and is not submitted elsewhere. First submissions do not yet need to be prepared in accordance with the Author Guidelines.

It takes only a few clicks to submit a manuscript online: <https://centaurus.manuscriptmanager.net/>

(Please check whether you already have an account in the system before trying to create a new one, or ideally, use your ORCID to log in). For help with submissions, please contact the editorial office: alexander.sterkens@brepols.net)

2. AIMS AND SCOPE

Centaurus publishes high quality academic content on the history of science in the broadest sense, including the history of mathematics, medicine, biomedical sciences, earth sciences, social sciences, humanities and technology, and their social and cultural aspects. We also invite contributions that build a bridge between history of science and other disciplines. There are several types of manuscripts, including original research articles and historiographical articles. The editorial board commissions experts to write book notices, book reviews and essay reviews of publications within the journal's scope. The Editor encourages suggestions for special issues, spotlight sections with short papers on topics of current interest, and articles suited to open peer commentary.

3. MANUSCRIPT CATEGORIES

Special Issues, Spotlight sections and historiographical sections:

Special Issue proposals are evaluated by *Centaurus* and the ESHS. There is an annual call for special issues, but ad hoc proposal of special issues is also possible. If you wish to propose a Special Issue, please email the [Editor-in-Chief](#) directly.

A **Spotlight Section** is a collection of short original articles focusing on a specific theme, which can be a new subject, a neglected area, a theme of particular topicality, or a topic of specific relevance to the profession. Its aim is to jump-start new discussion and debate. Spotlight sections can either be commissioned by the Centaurus' Editorial board or they can be proposed by scholars in writing to the [Editor-in-Chief](#).

A **Historiographical Section** contains a selection of original historiographical articles summarizing the current state of the art. Historiographical sections can either be commissioned by the Centaurus' Editorial board or they can be proposed by scholars in writing to the [Editor-in-Chief](#).

Original Articles:

Individually submitted **Original Articles** must report original research within the aims and scope of the journal and will be subjected to double blind review by referees. Our guidance for an article is around 10 000 words including the Notes/Bibliography section and should not exceed 12 000 words. Authors who exceed this word limit should add a justification on top of the submitted manuscript, before the manuscript title.

Authors may suggest to Editors to open up the manuscript for comments before publication, or Editors may suggest the same to authors. This would be especially appropriate for controversial or “big picture” articles. In this case, the Editor will invite colleagues to write short “In Response Comments”. The author will then be asked to reply to the comments. These short texts will be published together with the article. An example of a “response comment” can be found [here](#).

Special Issue Articles follow the same rules as Original Articles, but are invited by a guest editor. The word limit will be determined by negotiation between the guest editor and the Editor-in-Chief.

A **Spotlight Article** is an original contribution belonging to a collection of short articles edited by a Spotlight Editor (The word limit for spotlight articles will be negotiated with the Editor-in-Chief, invitation only). The style of such an article is more concise and faster paced than individually submitted Original Articles, but otherwise follow the same rules. Spotlight Articles may serve a variety of aims. They are especially useful for introducing new historiographical categories or methodological innovations developed in collaboration. The word limit will be determined by negotiation between the guest editor and the Editor-in-Chief.

Centaurus publishes **Historiographical Articles** summarizing the current state of the art on a topic that fits the aims and scope of the journal. Historiographical Articles can be submitted individually or as part of a Historiographical Section. A Historiographical Article may survey previously published studies but adds original historiographical analysis. (7,500 word limit).

Book Reviews:

Centaurus is interested in book reviews that fit the scope of the journal, i.e. books relevant to the history of science and its social and cultural aspects, taken in the broadest sense, including the history of mathematics, medicine, biomedical science, earth science, social sciences, humanities and technology. The journal has a special focus on books relevant to the history of science that are published in Europe in any European language. We aim for a diverse book reviews section, reviewing books published in different European regions, in different languages, by authors from different gender and cultural backgrounds and covering a diversity of periods, disciplines and methodologies. As such, our book reviews contribute to the mission of the ESHS to promote European research and cooperation in the field of the history of science.

Centaurus publishes three types of book review: Book Notices, regular Book Reviews and Essay Reviews.

Book Notices: (250 word limit, invitation only). A short Book Notice serves to inform the profession of the publication of a new book of interest. The content of a Book Notice is informational, giving a short summary of the contents, without a detailed discussion.

Book Reviews: (1,000 word limit, invitation only). The editors expect Book Reviews to summarize the main ideas of the book, assess its quality, and note its contribution to the history of science. Reviewers are asked to formulate possible negative opinions in a professional, non-abusive manner and focus on constructive criticism.

Essay Reviews: (2,500 word limit, invitation only). Essay Reviews are reviews of several books or a field of study. They give the author the opportunity to explore more in depth a new field of study, historiographical developments or methodological questions. Essay Reviews should be directed to specialist and general readers in the history of science.

Reviewers agree not to publish a review of the same book elsewhere. We normally ask that reviews be submitted within two months of the reviewers receiving the book.

Other contributions:

Apart from original articles and book reviews, *Centaurus* publishes editorials, review articles and other academic content.

As the official journal of the *European Society for the History of Science* (ESHS), *Centaurus* publishes prize-winning essays, presidential lectures, young scholar lectures and other academic contributions in collaboration with the ESHS. It also publishes other features related to the society, such as interviews, society news and information about the history of science in Europe.



As the official journal of the *European Society for the History of Science* (ESHS) *Centaurus* also publishes special **ESHS Sections** related to the society.

In Response Comments are invited short papers written in response to an individually submitted Original Article accepted for publication. (2,500 word limit, invitation only).

4. JOURNAL STYLE

General Style Points

Centaurus follows a form of the APA style as described in the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 6th edition and <https://apastyle.apa.org/learn/faqs>.

The following points provide general advice on formatting and style.

- **Spelling:** We use either UK or US spelling so long as spelling is consistent throughout an article.
- **Abbreviations:** In general, terms should not be abbreviated unless they are used repeatedly and the abbreviation is helpful to the reader. Initially, use the word in full, followed by the abbreviation in parentheses. Thereafter use the abbreviation only.
- **Units of measurement:** In general, measurements should be given in SI or SI-derived units. Visit the [Bureau International des Poids et Mesures \(BIPM\) website](http://www.bipm.org) for more information about SI units. In case of relevance for the argument or methodology of the article, historical and/or local measurement units can be used. These units should be clearly explained in the text or in a footnote.
- **Numbers:** numbers under 10 are spelt out, except for: measurements with a unit (8mmol/l); age (6 weeks old), or lists with other numbers (11 dogs, 9 cats, 4 gerbils) as well as Table and Figure numbers.
- **Headings:** Please use no more than two levels of headings. Do not number headings or paragraphs. Make sure that the two levels of headings are not used next to each other without text in between.

Capitalisation: Please use capital letters sparingly. Extraneous capitalisation of common nouns (such as parliament, cabinet, president etc.) should be avoided.

Figures: Figures are to be provided in separate files. At the location in the text where the figure needs to be placed, put **[INSERT FIGURE n]**

How to format references in footnotes:

Footnotes contain short references to the literature. Such *references should never be provided in the body of the text but only in a footnote*. Explanatory footnotes are also allowed. They should be kept brief and should contain only short comments tangential to the main argument of the paper.

Please keep footnotes as succinct as possible, and minimise the number of footnotes by grouping together repeated references to a single source into one footnote. Footnotes should only be placed at the end of a sentence. The footnote superscript number should be placed outside the punctuation mark.

The references in the footnote should consist of the author's last name and the year of publication, following the APA referencing style (*Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 6th edition). For more information about APA referencing style, please refer to <https://apastyle.apa.org/learn/faqs>.

Examples of references, or text with references, in a footnote:

¹ Kevles (1995, pp. 106, 109–110).

² For example, Kevles (1995, pp. 102–108); Varcoe (1970).

³ Studies of reading in childhood have produced mixed results: Albright, Wayne, & Fortinbras (2004); Gibson (2011); Smith & Wexwood (2010).

⁴ Examples of studies devoted to specific national contexts include Guerraggio & Nastasi (2005) and Parshall & Rowe (1994), as well as entire collections such as Goldstein, Gray, & Ritter (1996) and Siegmund-Schultze & Sørensen (2006).

Parentheses can be used in order to create more clarity in a text footnote that contains references. Here is an example:

⁵ A few researchers in the linguistics field have developed training programs designed to improve native speakers' ability to understand accented speech (Derwing, Rossiter, & Munro, 2002; Thomas, 2004). Their training techniques are based on the research described above indicating that comprehension improves with exposure to non-native speech. Derwing et al. (2002) conducted their training with students preparing to be social workers, but note that other professionals who work with non-native speakers could benefit from a similar program.

The full reference to the literature should be provided in the reference list at the end of the manuscript. Archival materials should only be cited in the footnotes, however, not the reference list.

Referring to Archival Materials in footnotes:

Basic Structure:

Author's name (Date: Year, Mon. Day), Title of material [Description of material], Locating information (Call number, Box number, File name, or number, etc.—List from most to least specific), Name of collection, Name of repository, City, Country (or, if in the US, the initials of the state).

Examples:

Archival Material with an “archive acronym” for later references

In this example, footnote 1 contains the full reference, footnote 2 refers to a different document in the same archive, using the “archive acronym.”

¹ Sage, B.-G. (1790), Remarques de M. Sage, Directeur de l'École royale des Mines sur l'extrait raisonné du rapport du Comité des Finances de l'Assemblée nationale [Pamphlet], Archives de la Monnaie, cote MM AA-000001, p. 6, Ministère de l'Économie et des Finances, Services des Archives Économiques et Financières, Paris, France (hereafter MEF/SAEF).

² Antoine, J.-D. (1784, Dec. 20), Hôtel des Monnoies, cabinet de minéralogie, mémoire et quatre plans du bâtiment [Report], Archives de la Monnaie, cote MM AA-000001, MEF/SAEF.

If a single archival source is used frequently throughout the paper, it is permissible to create an abbreviation for that source. Explain the abbreviation in the first instance; e.g., Hereafter, this document will be referred to as Sage (1790), “Remarques.”

Archival Material without an Author

³ Minutes of the Proceedings (1802, Jun. 18), p. 235, Archives 1743–1934, American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, PA.

Archival Material without an Author, Date, or Title

⁴ Manuscript (n.d.), fol. 33r, Cod CXVI 2-18, Biblioteca Pública de Évora, Évora, Portugal.

Archive Acronyms that appear in the Locating Information do not need to be repeated

⁵ “Private income of Mrs. Gero” (1951, Sept. 7), Item 44/8884, Hungary, HU OSA 300–1–2, Information Items, General Records, Records of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty Research Institute (hereafter RFE/RL RI), Vera and Donald Blinken Open Society Archives at Central European University, Budapest (hereafter HU OSA).

⁶ Audience Analysis (1955, July 26), pp. 3, 6, HU OSA 300–1–2–60,401, Information Items, General Records, Records of RFE/RL RI.

Particular style for letters (and telegrams, etc.):

⁷ C. Blagden to E. Darwin [Letter] (1786, Sept. 14), CB/2/35, Papers of Sir Charles Blagden, Royal Society, London, England (hereafter RS CB).

Letters in a published collection should use a hybrid style

⁸ J. Banks to C. Blagden [Letter] (1782, Aug. 17), in Banks (2007, Vol. 2, p. 7).

How to Format the Reference List or Bibliography:

References follow the APA (6th edition) referencing style; for more information, please refer to [this guide](#) (and following pages). It is strongly recommended that you use referencing software such as [Zotero](#) in preparing your reference list: Apply the “APA v6” style sheet before exporting the references into your Word document.

Please list all authors/editors in a work, up to a total of 8. If there are more: list the first 7, followed by ellipses, followed by the final author.

If a work has no listed author, the title should be used in place of the author, including in the footnotes. “Anon.” should only be used if the work is signed as such.

Reference examples follow:

Journal article

Beers, S. R., & De Bellis, M. D. (2002). Neuropsychological function in children with maltreatment-related posttraumatic stress disorder. *The American Journal of Psychiatry*, 159, 483–486.
doi:[10.1176/appi.ajp.159.3.483](https://doi.org/10.1176/appi.ajp.159.3.483)

Entire Special Issue of a journal

Adamson, M., & Lalli, R. (Eds.). (2021). Global perspectives on science diplomacy [Special issue]. *Centaurus*, 63(1).

(Articles within the issue should be cited individually.)

Book



Bradley-Johnson, S. (1994). *Psychoeducational assessment of students who are visually impaired or blind: Infancy through high school* (2nd ed.). Austin, TX: Pro-ed.

Chapter or Article in an Edited Book

Brigaglia, A. (1993). The Circolo matematico di Palermo and its *Rendiconti*: The contributions of the Italian mathematical community to the diffusion of international mathematical journals, 1884–1914. In E. Ausejo & M. Hormigón (Eds.), *Messengers of mathematics: European mathematical journals (1800–1946)* (pp. 71–93). Madrid, Spain: Siglo XXI de España Editores.

Website

Scerri, E. (2012, August 8). How exactly did Mendeleev discover his periodic table of 1869? *OUPblog*. Retrieved from <https://blog.oup.com/2012/08/how-exactly-did-mendeleev-discover-his-periodic-table-of-1869/>

Print newspaper article

Del Amo, A. (1966, January 6). US said to hunt lost atom device. *The New York Times*, p. 1.

Archival references

Centaurus does *not* cite archival references in the reference list. Please include archival references only in the footnotes and figure captions.

5. WHAT YOU NEED TO SUBMIT

The manuscript should be submitted in separate files: title page; anonymized main text file; figures; appendices.

1) Title Page

The title page should contain:

- (1) title;
- (2) all author names in the right order, with affiliations, and, if possible, ORCID iD (see : <https://orcid.org/register>);
- (3) correspondence address for corresponding author(s);
- (4) five keywords;

Please provide up to 5 keywords. Keywords may be short phrases of up to four words. Please make sure the keywords relate to the aim and scope of the journal. These keywords will be published together with your article and will help readers find your work.

(Note: you will also be asked to give keywords during the submission process. These keywords help editors find reviewers and can be different than the ones provided on the Title Page.

(5) all funding information that you want to see mentioned in the article;

(6) personal acknowledgements (excluding funding information). Contributions from anyone who does not meet the criteria for authorship should be listed;

(7) If your contribution is part of a Special Issue or other special section, please also provide the title of (special) issue and the names of guest editors.

2) The anonymized manuscript:

The main text file should be presented in the following order:

- i. Title, abstract;
- ii. Main text;
- iii. References;
- iv. Tables (each table complete with title and footnotes);
- v. Figure legends.

Figures, appendices and supporting information should be supplied as separate files.

How to anonymize your manuscript:

As papers are double-blind peer reviewed, neither the main text file nor the response to reviewers should include any information that might identify the authors (this includes phrases like “As I have shown in my book...” etc.)

Before submitting, please also remove all document properties and personal information to properly anonymize the file. To do so, please make sure to follow the next steps:

1. click the **File** tab, and then click **Info**.
2. Click **Check for Issues**, and then click **Inspect Document**.

3. In the **Document Inspector** dialog box, select the check boxes to choose the types of hidden content that you want to be inspected.
4. Click **Inspect**.
5. Review the results of the inspection in the **Document Inspector** dialog box.
6. Click **Remove All** next to the inspection results for the types of hidden content that you want to remove from your document. Usually, you should only remove the “Document properties and personal information” and NOT the “Comments, revision marks from tracked changes, versions, and ink annotations” (the latter will delete your comments and edits).
7. **Save** your document (and add anon to the title). Note that the Document properties and personal information will only be removed after you save the document.

i. ***Title, Abstract***

Please provide an anonymized abstract of no more than 300 words containing the major keywords

ii. ***Main Text***

Texts should be sent in MSWord or RTF format.

See the above section for an explanation of the journal style.

iii. ***References (i.e. Reference List or Bibliography)***

This section is called “References” and should appear alphabetically by name at the end of the manuscript. References should be prepared according to the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th edition), see the above section for an explanation of the journal style. DOI should be provided for all references where available.

iv. ***Tables***

Tables should be self-contained and complement, not duplicate, information contained in the text. They should be inserted in the main text properly, not pasted as images. Complex tables or tables with particular lay-out requirements are to be provided as separate, editable files. Legends should be concise but comprehensive – the table, legend, and footnotes to the

table must be understandable without reference to the text. Each table should have a table number, a heading, clear labels for all rows (if applicable) and columns used, a description of units of measurements used and a note on sources. Please note that in general authors must adhere to SI units, unless the use of historical or local units are important to the argument of the article (see above). Units are not italicized. All abbreviations must be defined in footnotes.

How to create footnotes to a table: Please do not use the MSWord footnote function. It is therefore best for authors to type footnotes for tables and the accompanying footnote references as plain text, ideally with a different numbering than that of the footnotes (e.g. Roman numerals, numerals), underneath the legend.

Here is an example of a table:

Manuscripts	Origin	H × L
Brescia, Biblioteca Civica Queriniana, B.II.6	Brescia, end of the 9th century ⁱ	351 × 270
Leiden, Universiteitsbibliotheek, Voss. Lat. F 70-IB + Oxford, Bodleian Library, MS. Canon. Class. Lat. 279-III	France (Auxerre?), 9th–10th century	291 × 232
Florence, Biblioteca Medicea Laurenziana, Plut. 76.40	Eastern France, second quarter of the 9th century ⁱⁱ	288 × 227
Paris, Bibliothèque nationale de France, Lat. 8540 (ff. 1–54)	Northern France, third fourth of the 9th century ⁱⁱⁱ	268 × 205

Footnotes to the table:

ⁱ Bischoff, Katalog, I, no. 680.

ⁱⁱ Bischoff, Katalog, I, no. 1240.

ⁱⁱⁱ Bischoff, Katalog, III, no. 4550.

v. **Figure Legends**

Legends should be concise but comprehensive – the figure and its legend must be understandable without reference to the text. Each photograph or diagram should have a figure number, a heading, and clear labels if appropriate. Include definitions of any symbols

used and define/explain all abbreviations and units of measurement. Copyright and permission status must be included in the legends. Please refer to [this article](#) for the APA style for copyright statements in figure legends. The permission statement can be in the form “Reproduced with permission from [copyright holder].”

3) Figures (if any):

Figures should be uploaded as separate files on the Manuscript Manager submission platform. Although authors are encouraged to send the highest-quality figures possible, for peer-review purposes, a wide variety of formats, sizes, and resolutions are accepted. Note that it is important to request good quality figures (> 300 dpi) well in time, and usually before the final acceptance of the article, in order to avoid delays in publication.

Figures submitted in colour: may be reproduced in colour online free of charge. Please note, however, that it is preferable that line figures (e.g. graphs and charts) are supplied in black and white so that they are legible if printed in black and white. If an author would prefer to have figures printed in colour in hard copies of the journal, a fee will be charged by the Publisher.

Reproduction of Copyright Material: Please note that it is the responsibility of the author to check whether their images require formal permission from a third party (a library or museum etc.), and they should apply for and purchase those permissions themselves. Please exercise caution when using image sources from the Internet or from existing publications. It is usually not sufficient to simply cite the publication or website and we expect authors to make all necessary efforts to acquire the required permission statements and provide those upon request.

4) Additional Files (if any):

Appendices

Appendices will be published after the references. For submission they should be supplied as separate files but referred to in the text. You will be able to add appendices as a Manuscript type within the Manuscript Manager submission system.

Supplementary Material

Supplementary Material or supporting information is information that is not essential to the article, but provides greater depth and background. It is hosted online and appears without editing or typesetting. Brepols, the publisher of Centaurus, is willing to host supplementary information and data in their public Figshare database. Such supplementary information may include tables, figures,



videos, datasets, etc. Please upload “Supplementary Material” on the Manuscript Manager submission platform together with your manuscript (or with the revision of your manuscript). Care must be taken to ensure that reference to such material still makes sense in the printed journal. Please note that the Publisher will create a unique DOI-number for the Supplementary Material and that this DOI-number must be included in the article.

Note: if data, scripts, or other artefacts used to generate the analyses presented in the paper are available via a publicly available data repository, authors should include a reference to the location of the material within their paper.