Submitting Manuscripts to *PMLA*

Editorial Policy for Essays

PMLA welcomes essays of interest to those concerned with the study of language and literature. As the publication of a large and heterogeneous association, the journal is receptive to a variety of topics, whether general or specific, and to all scholarly methods and theoretical perspectives. The ideal *PMLA* essay exemplifies the best of its kind, whatever the kind; addresses a significant problem; draws out clearly the implications of its findings; and engages the attention of its audience through a concise, readable presentation.

Eligibility

To be eligible for review, manuscripts must meet the following requirements:

MLA membership. Authors must be members of the MLA. (For a collaboratively written essay to be eligible for review, all coauthors must be members of the MLA.)

Author anonymity. Authors should not refer to themselves in the first person in the submitted text or notes if such references would identify them; any necessary references to the author's previous work, for example, should be in the third person.

Word length. Articles must be between 6,000 and 9,000 words. The word count includes discursive notes but excludes works-cited lists and translations.

Originality. Articles cannot have been previously published in any language. An article is considered previously published if it appears in print or in an online outlet with the traits of publication, such as editorial selection of content, a formal presentation, and ongoing availability. Online contexts that typically lack these traits include personal Web pages, discussion groups, and repositories.

Exclusive submission. Articles cannot be under consideration by other journals or publishers. An article found to have been simultaneously submitted elsewhere will not be published in *PMLA* even if it has already been accepted for publication by the Editorial Board.

Language. Manuscripts in languages other than English must be accompanied by a detailed summary in English (generally of 1,000–1,500 words) and must be translated into English if they are recommended to the Editorial Board. Translations should accompany all foreign language quotations.

Scope. PMLA does not publish book reviews or new works of fiction. Submissions should be broadly of interest to those concerned with the study of language and literature.

Quality. PMLA publishes the best of its kind. Works that demonstrate egregious signs of poor quality (e.g., lack of scholarly apparatus when relevant, evidence of extreme carelessness in preparation) cannot be sent for review.

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https://doi.org/10.1632/pmla.2019.134.5.985 Published online by Cambridge University Press

Forthcoming in *PMLA*

In the January issue

Special Topic: Varieties of Digital Humanities
Coordinated by Alison Booth and Miriam Posner

Alison Booth and Miriam Posner. "Introduction"

Sari Altschuler and David Weimer. "Texturing the Digital Humanities: A Manifesto"

Lauren Klein. "Dimensions of Scale: Invisible Labor, Editorial Work, and the Future of Quantitative Literary Studies"

James Lee and Joshua Beckelhimer. "Anthropocene and Empire: Discourse Networks of the Human Record"

Alan Liu. "Toward a Diversity Stack: Digital Humanities and Diversity as Technical Problem"

Alexander Manshel. "The Lag: Technology and Fiction in the Twentieth Century"

Richard Jean So and Edwin Roland. "Race and Distant Reading"

Ted Underwood. "Machine Learning and Human Perspective"

Theories and Methodologies

Digital Ecologies with a Difference. Essays by Howard Rambsy, Élika Ortega, and Susan Brown

Codes and Transformations. Essays by Elton Barker et al., Meredith Clark, Rachel Buurma and Jon Shaw, Katharine A. Coles, and Daniel Shore

Submission Procedures

MLA style. Manuscripts should follow MLA style as set out in the most recent edition of the *MLA Handbook*. The MLA urges its contributors to be sensitive to the social implications of language and to seek wording free of discriminatory overtones.

Cover sheet. Authors' names should not appear on manuscripts; instead, a cover sheet, with the author's name and address and the title of the article, should accompany each manuscript.

Permissions. If the contribution includes any materials (e.g., quotations that exceed fair use, illustrations, charts, other graphics) that have been taken from another source, the author must obtain written permission to reproduce them in print and electronic formats.

Submissions should be sent electronically to pmlasubmissions@mla.org.

Review Process

Each article submitted and eligible for peer review is sent to at least two reviewers. Articles recommended by these readers are then sent to the members of the Editorial Board, who meet periodically with the editor to make final decisions. Until a final decision is reached, the author's name is not made known to readers, to members of the Editorial Board, or to the editor. For detailed information on the review process for submitted essays, please send an inquiry to pmlasubmissions@mla.org.

Features in *PMLA*

Manuscripts and correspondence related to the features described below should be sent to the Managing Editor, *PMLA*, Modern Language Association, 85 Broad Street, suite 500, New York, NY 10004-2434 (pmlasubmissions@mla.org).

Criticism in Translation

MLA members are invited to submit to the *PMLA* Editorial Board proposals for translations. Articles, as well as chapters or sections of books that can function as independent units, will be considered. The originals may be in any language. Two types of proposals are welcome: (1) significant scholarship from earlier periods that has not lost its forcefulness and whose retrieval in English in *PMLA* would be a noteworthy event for a broad body of readers and (2) contemporary work of sufficient weight and potential influence to merit the attention of the field as a whole.

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