JAS Style Guide and Submission Requirements

The Journal of Australian Studies (JAS) is a fully refereed, multidisciplinary international journal.

JAS publishes scholarly articles and reviews about Australian culture, society, politics, history and literature. Contributors should be familiar with the aim and scope of the journal.

Articles should be between 6,000 and 8,000 words, including footnotes. An abstract, title and at least three keywords will be requested during the online submission process. Titles and abstracts should be concise, accurate and informative to enable readers to find your article through search engines and databases.

JAS’s referencing style is based on Chicago style. Please refer to the complete Chicago Manual of Style (17th edition, or online at https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/home.html) for issues that are not covered by the following instructions.

Format

Use a standard font—such as Times New Roman, Arial or Calibri—in 12-point size.

Use double line spacing and indent the first line of each paragraph (but not at the beginning of the article, or a new section, or following an image, table or indented quote). Insert a carriage return (single line break) between sections, but not between paragraphs or footnotes, and not following headings or block quotations.

Avoid extra space or blank lines between paragraphs. If you do want a break to appear in the printed version, indicate this explicitly with three asterisks set on a separate line.

Subheadings can improve the flow and cohesion of your article. Use a maximum of two levels of headings: first-level headings should appear in bold type, and second-level headings should appear in italics.

Images

You must supply photos or illustrations as separate electronic image files (in .JPG or .TIF format). To ensure that photos and illustrations are of print quality, files should be saved at a resolution of at least 300 dpi.

Figures, diagrams and maps should be labelled consecutively (Figure 1, Figure 2 and so on) and placed in the text in their correct positions. They must include a title and source (and copyright information, if applicable).

Each illustration should appear as soon as possible after its first reference in the text. All text references to illustrations should use numbers (i.e. Figure 2). Illustrations or images under copyright require permission from the copyright owner before they can
be reproduced.

Tables must be formatted in Microsoft Word using the table menu commands—not as manually spaced text—to create a proper table object. They should be labelled as tables, not as figures.

You should select a consistent style for table elements and apply it to all tables in a single article.

Number tables separately from any illustrations. Use succinct titles for tables.

**Style**

Use clear, direct, contemporary language that favours active voice wherever possible. For example, avoid constructions such as “In this article, it will be argued that…” and use “This article will argue that…” or “In this article, we will argue that…” instead.

Avoid clichés and jargon, particularly if terms are not well known outside of your discipline.

Avoid dated terms such as “amongst”, “whilst” and “amidst”; use “among”, “while” and “amid”.

Use historical present tense when referring to scholarly works (for example, “Smith argues that…” rather than “Smith argued that…”).

Minimise the use of scare quotes. If you are introducing a coined expression—or highlighting that a term is ironic, problematic or not your own—use double quotation marks only when it first appears in your article.

Use abbreviations or acronyms only if the term appears five or more times in your article, and spell the term in full in the first instance, unless it is universally known (such as DNA or GPS).

Refer to your manuscript as an article rather than a paper or essay.

**Spelling**


**Punctuation**

**Commas**

Use a comma after an introductory sentence element, unless it is very short. For example: “During World War II, the United States and the Soviet Union fought together as allies.”
Use a comma to separate independent clauses: “Media coverage in the early 20th century was relatively scarce, but newspapers were allocating more space to stories of bush fire by the 1940s.”

For stylistic consistency, JAS does not use the serial or Oxford comma by default. Use a serial or Oxford comma only when it will improve clarity.

**Full Stops**

Use one space, not two, after full stops between sentences.

Use a full stop followed by a space after initials that represent part of a name (for example, “P. D. James”), but not after letters that signify qualifications, honours or appointments (for example, “Dr”, “FRSA”, “MP”).

**Dashes**

*Hyphens*

Use dashes or hyphens to form compounds (for example, “post-colonial trauma”, “sister-in-law”). Please note that some compound modifiers are hyphenated before a noun but not after: “an up-to-date manual” vs “the manual is up to date”.

The *Chicago Manual of Style* gives comprehensive advice about hyphenations.

*En Dashes (En Rules)*

Use unspaced en dashes to indicate page ranges in references (e.g. 4–16).

Use unspaced en dashes to connect numbers within a series (for example, 1990–2000). When introducing a range with the words *from or between*, however, you should use the word *and* rather than an en dash (for example, “John Howard was prime minister *between 1996 and 2007*”).

Use unspaced en dashes to indicate sports scores, directions or relationships (for example, “the Sydney–Melbourne flight”, “a student–teacher collaboration”) and to form complex compounds (for example, “World War II–era lace”).

*Em Dashes (Em Rules)*

Use unspaced em dashes to set off an amplifying or explanatory word, phrase or clause instead of a comma or bracket pair, for example, “Settlers found—whether by chance or design—vulnerabilities in the earlier structure.”

Also use unspaced em dashes to indicate a sudden break in speech or thought.

**Quotations**

Use curly or smart quotation marks ("), not straight marks (").
If you directly quote material from another source of fewer than 100 words (at least six to eight lines), you should enclose it within double quotation marks. Use single quotation marks to indicate a quote within a quote.

Quotations of at least 100 words should be formatted as a separate indented paragraph (a block quotation) and should appear without quotation marks. To indicate a quote within a block quotation, use double quotation marks.

Within a quotation, preserve the style and punctuation of the original text, even if it does not align with these guidelines or with contemporary practice. You may silently correct obvious typographic errors, but you should indicate originality using the word *sic* within square brackets (i.e. [*sic]*) when the text quoted is from an older work or a manuscript source where idiosyncrasies of spelling are generally preserved.

You may naturalise (change the initial letter of a direct quote to either a capital or lowercase letter) to suit the syntax and meaning of the surrounding text.

Use an ellipsis (…) to indicate where you have omitted words from a direct quotation. You do not need to use ellipses before the first word of a quotation if the beginning of the original sentence has been omitted or after the last word of a quotation if the end of the original sentence has been omitted, nor do you need to put square brackets around the ellipsis.

If interpolating a work or phrase, indicate the inserted material with square brackets: “He [*Prime Minister Scott Morrison*] ruled out calling a snap election.”

End punctuation should fall outside of the closing quotation marks, unless it is included in the original quote (for example, an exclamation or question mark) or the quotation is a complete sentence in itself.

Numbered notes (i.e. superscript numbers indicating a footnote) should be placed outside of quotation marks, and after the closing punctuation:

According to Stanley Fish, “the purpose of a good education is to show you that there are three sides to a two-sided story”.27

**Capitalisation**

*In Body Text*

Use *minimal capitalisation* for the main text of articles—that is, use capitals for proper nouns, but otherwise use them only sparingly. See the guidelines below for specific usages.

*Minimal (Sentence-Style) Capitalisation*

Use capital letters for proper nouns and lowercase letters for common nouns according to the following principles:

No initial capital letters are required for official ranks or titles, unless they are
combined with the name of the holder. For example, “the prime minister” as a common noun does not require capitals, but “Prime Minister Curtin” as a proper noun does. A title used in apposition with a personal name (for example, “John Curtin, the prime minister”) also does not require capital letters.

Capitals are not required for generic titles of institutions or organisations (for example, “the society” or “the commission”), but they are required when you are using a full and specific title (for example, “the Australian Society for French Studies” or “the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse”).

Some names of historical periods typically appear in capitals, either by tradition or to avoid ambiguity—for example, “the Middle Ages” (but “the medieval era”), “the Common Era”, “the Reformation” and so on.

**Maximal (Headline-Style) Capitalisation**

In both body text and in footnote references, capitalise the first and last words in the titles and subtitles of cited works, as well as all other major words (nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs). Use lowercase letters for articles (“the”, “a” and “an”), coordinating conjunctions (such as “and”, “or” and “but”) and prepositions (such as “in”, “by” and “through”). Please note that the first letter of a word following a colon (i.e. a subtitle) also appears in capital letters, even if it is an article, conjunction or preposition:

*Am I Black Enough for You?*

*Borges’s Short Stories: A Reader’s Guide*

*Dear World: Contemporary Uses of the Diary*

*Australian Books and Authors in the American Marketplace 1840s–1940s*

Use maximal capitals for all headings and subheadings.

**Dates and Numbers**

*JAS* uses Australian date format (15 January 2014). You should always spell out the full date.

Write the names of centuries as either the 15th century or the 1400s, but refer to decades in numbers only (i.e. “the 1960s”). Note that an apostrophe is not included after the numerals and before the “s” in centuries or decades.

Spell out the cardinal numbers one to nine (and the ordinal numbers first to ninth) as words. Use numerals for numbers equal to or greater than 10.

Do not mix words and numerals within a single sentence (for example, use “the film lasted for 1 hour and 27 minutes” rather than “one hour and 27 minutes”).

Spell out numbers when they appear at the beginning of a sentence.

Insert a comma in numbers of more than three digits (e.g. 1,066), except when they
represent dates or mathematical workings.

Express percentages using the two words “per cent” (for example, “10 per cent of participants”), unless you are using percentages frequently within the article, in which case, using the percentage symbol (%) is acceptable.

Use numerals when referring to pages, chapters, parts, volumes and other divisions of a book (for example, “Chapter 12”).

**Documentation**

Use consecutively numbered footnotes for references and explanatory notes. Explanatory notes should be brief; try to incorporate more substantive matter into the body of the article.

References must be accurate and complete to allow reviewers, editors and readers to easily locate your source material.

When citing a work, use the following general format:

Author name (first name before surname), full title of work, edition (if not the first edition), place of publication, publisher, date, page numbers.

When citing works by three authors, use a comma between each name.

When citing works by at least four (4+) authors, give only the first author’s name followed by “et al.” “Et al.” appears in roman, rather than italic, font.

As per the capitalisation guidelines, you should use maximal capitalisation for the major words in the title of book, journal, article and so on.

Titles and subtitles of whole works (books, films, albums, TV series, etc.) should appear in italics and maximal capitalisation.

Titles of journal articles, chapters in edited books, poems, songs and other parts of whole works should appear between double quotation marks and in maximal capitalisation.

Please note: *JAS* does not use “ibid” for subsequent references to a work already cited. For subsequent references, use the author’s surname, a shortened title, and the page number where applicable:

**First Reference:**

Subsequent Reference:

- Stadler and Mitchell, “Never-Never Land”.

Reference Examples

Please refer to the *Chicago Manual of Style* for any documentation formats not addressed by the following examples.

Books


Electronic Books


*JAS does not require access dates in its published citations of electronic sources unless no date of publication or revision can be determined from the source.*

Edited Books


Chapters in Edited Books


Translated Books

Articles

Journal Articles


Newspaper Articles

Include as much information as is available, such as author, title, page number, and URL if the article was accessed online. Note that the initial “the” is omitted from newspaper titles.


Other Sources

Unpublished Works

Titles of unpublished works appear in quotation marks—not in italics.


Conference Papers


Official Publications

Websites

Websites should be referred to in footnotes by a specific title (if any), by the name of the sponsor or author, or by a descriptive phrase. Titles of websites are generally set in italics without quotation marks, and capitalised. Title sections or pages within a website should be placed in quotation marks. The precise URL must be provided.

For original content from online sources other than the types of formally published documents discussed elsewhere, include as much of the following as can be determined: the title or description of the page, the author of the content (if known), the owner of the site, and a URL. Include a publication or revision date; if no such date can be determined, include an access date.


Works of Art

Julie Gough, The Chase, 2008, sculpture, 1.82m, Canberra, National Gallery of Australia.

Audiovisual Material

Documentation of a recording usually includes some or all of the following: name of composer, writer, performer, or other person primarily responsible for the content; the title, in italics or quotation marks, as applicable; the name of the recording company or publisher; any identifying number of the recording; and the copyright date or date of production or performance.


Andrew Knight and Andrea Denholm, “I Name Thee Bay of Pearls,” SeaChange, season 3, episode 8, directed by Stuart McDonald (Melbourne: ABC, 5 November 2000).


Book Reviews

Book reviews should be between 600 and 800 words, and should not contain footnotes or endnotes.

Page references within the review should appear inside round brackets, for example, (27), rather than in footnotes.
Bibliographic details should follow this format:

*Book Title*, by Author/Editor Name(s), Publisher, Place, Year, pages, price (in $AUD) paperback/hardback, ISBN.

For example: