

The *Review of Religious Research* (RRR) journal aims to publish manuscripts meeting these six scope criteria: (1) reports empirical research; (2) attends to religiosity and spirituality topics; (3) identifies religious groups and their adherents; (4) engages in interdisciplinary social science research practices; (5) describes methods and analytical techniques; and (6) applies research with relevance for practitioners. These criteria are explained further in the journal [Aims & Scope](#).

### **Empirical Research**

Manuscripts meet the empirical social science research scope criteria by reporting on observable behaviors, actions, orientations, and more of social groups. The goal is to understand and analyze rather than seeking to propagate a religion, proselytize, evangelize, or in other ways directly represent a religious view. Valuing the goal of replicability and peer review, empirical research typically includes a methods section that explains how data were collected, why, using what procedures, under which conditions, and toward what types of analysis.

### **Sage Publishing**

*Review of Religious Research* is excited to announce that the journal is now published by SAGE. SAGE is one of the largest independent scholarly publishers and has a strong track-record of partnering with hundreds of scholarly professional societies and associations to publish their journals. Important in this publishing partnership, RRA is encouraged that SAGE celebrates the social and behavioral sciences and endeavors to support quality research that transforms society and fosters understanding of people, groups, and cultures. [Read the SAGE story](#).

Additionally, the SAGE founder – Sara Miller McCune – embodied a focus on research methods within the organization through the Little Green Book series, which many regard as the premier reference set of how to tips on conducting quality social science research. [Read the SAGE methods story](#). In this context, the RRR will be at home in continuing to publish high-quality social science research that engages in quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods analyses.

### **Sage Manuscript Guidelines**

SAGE Publishing disseminates high-quality research and engaged scholarship globally, and we are committed to diversity and inclusion in publishing. We encourage submissions from a diverse range of authors from across all countries and backgrounds. Only manuscripts of sufficient quality that meet the aims and scope of *Review of Religious Research* will be reviewed.

Authors are advised to review the [SAGE Manuscript Submission Guidelines](#), as well as the [SAGE Peer Review](#) process overview. SAGE is a member of the [Committee on Publication Ethics](#). SAGE recommends that authors follow the [Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing, and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals](#) formulated by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE).

Review the RRR [Call for Papers](#) and [Aims and Scope](#) for more information about the journal. Additional details and information about how to submit manuscripts in the ScholarOne™ The manuscripts system can be accessed here: <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/rrr>.

Please contact the Editor-In-Chief with questions: Patricia Snell Herzog, PhD [relig@iupui.edu](mailto:relig@iupui.edu).

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### **Original Research Articles**

Original research articles present scholarly and methodologically rigorous empirical analysis. Sections: Introduction, Literature Review (typically labeled by topical headings), Data and Methods, Results, Discussion (including limitations, implications, conclusions). Before submitting a manuscript, authors should read the journal's Aims & Scope for more information. Maximum 10,000 words, 40 double-spaced manuscript pages, including references.

### **Research Notes**

Research notes are similar to original research articles in presenting scholarly and methodologically rigorous empirical analysis. Notes are briefer than articles and typically provide less theoretical framing and literature reviewing than articles. The focus is on the study design and results. Sections: Introduction, Data and Methods, Results, Discussion (including limitations). Maximum 7,500 words, 30 double-spaced pages, including references.

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Review articles provide a comprehensive summary of relevant existing studies, including a synthesis of their relevant theory, methods, and findings on topic(s) of interest to the journal (see Aims & Scope). Sections: Introduction, Background, Data and Methods (describe sources, inclusion and exclusion criteria), Results, Discussion (limitations, implications, conclusions). Maximum 10,000 words, 40 double-spaced pages, including references.

### **Applied Research Abstracts**

Applied research abstracts briefly present the results of an applied study. Sections: Background, Purpose, Methods, Results, Conclusions, and Implications. Applied abstracts are 350-550 words and should include a footnote explaining to readers how to access the report, data, or additional information on the study.

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Contexts include award announcements, memoriams, commentaries about the process of conducting research (e.g., applications of research methods to topics relevant to the journal), profiles of denominational research organizations, or invited addresses from the Religious Research Association. It is rare that a manuscript of this type would be unsolicited; authors should consult the editor before submitting this type of manuscript. Max 1,000 words.

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Book reviews provide a summary of a scholarly book that identifies the purpose and central themes, highlights important claims or contributions, and offers critical evaluation of the theories, methods, approach, or limitations (about 800 words). If you would like to review a book for the journal, contact the Book Review Editor, David Eagle, PhD [david.eagle@duke.edu](mailto:david.eagle@duke.edu).

## **Manuscript Submission Guidelines**

### **Title** (10-15 words)

Titles are typically around 10-15 words. Ensure the main key phrase for the topic is in the manuscript title. Make sure the title is descriptive, unambiguous, accurate and reads well. People search on key phrases not just single words e.g., 'faith-based organizations' not only 'organization.' Also include the topic as close to the start as possible. If authors are using a 'creative' title, make this a subtitle to a more descriptive title. A descriptive title is also good for making an article more searchable journal databases: Web of Science, Scopus, Google Scholar.

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### **Sample Letter 1**

Dear Editor:

All the authors have read the final version of the manuscript and agreed to submit it to *Review of Religious Research*. The manuscript has not been published previously, and it is not currently being reviewed for publication by another journal.

The authors think the manuscript fits within the topical areas of Religious Leaders and Religion & Civics because it investigates the ways that people in faith-based organizations draw upon religious language in volunteer recruitment efforts. This is an empirical research study that utilized surveys to collect data for the quantitative analysis and in-depth interviews to inform the qualitative analysis.

[Name of Corresponding Author] of the [Affiliated University or Organization] (email@university.edu) is the corresponding author of the manuscript and a current member of the Religious Research Association.

Sincerely,

[Name of Corresponding Author]

### **Sample Letter 2**

Dear Editor:

All the authors have read the final version of the manuscript and agreed to submit it to *Review of Religious Research*. The manuscript has not been published previously, and it is not currently being reviewed for publication by another journal.

The authors think the manuscript fits within the topic area of Religious Beliefs because it reviews how scholars attend to Muslim, Christian, and Jewish religious texts in published research. Although the manuscript does not appear to fit into any of the methods listed in the Aims & Scope, the authors think the manuscript is consistent with the Aims & Scope because the study employs bibliometric techniques to inform a quantitative and qualitative analysis of existing publications.

As none of the authors currently belong to the Religious Research Association, [Name of Corresponding Author] agrees to pay the \$35 fee for the manuscript to be peer-reviewed if it is initially assessed to be potentially suitable for publication via the Religious Research Association [website](#) (payment will be confirmed with the RRA before proceeding with peer review).

Sincerely,

[Name of Corresponding Author]