

## Journal Articles

The *Religious Educator* journal welcomes well-researched, well-written articles on the restored gospel of Jesus Christ, Latter-day Saint scriptures, Church history, and pedagogy. Most manuscripts will be between ten and thirty double-spaced pages. To see articles published in the past, [click here](#).

Before submitting your article to us, we encourage you to seek feedback from colleagues with expertise on your topic.

Submit your completed manuscript at <https://rsc.byu.edu/submissions> via Scholastica. If you have general questions or would like to submit a proposal prior to completing a final draft, please email Publications Coordinator Leigh Ann Copas at [rsc@byu.edu](mailto:rsc@byu.edu). Sometimes emails go astray, so contact Leigh Ann if she has not acknowledged receipt of your proposal within two weeks.

All the articles we receive go through a preliminary evaluation that may take up to three months. If we decide to pursue publishing your article, it may go through a peer-review process, being read by two anonymous reviewers. That process may last another three months.

For further ideas as you prepare your manuscript for review, please see **Preparing Your Manuscript** below. Completed manuscripts need to comply with the [Religious Studies Center Style Guide](#) and **Permissions Policy**.

### Preparing Your Manuscript

Whether you're preparing a book-length manuscript or a journal article, we encourage you to keep the following guidelines in mind:

*Accessibility.* Write direct, clear English in a style that is accessible to the broadest possible audience for your work.

*Thesis statement.* Include a thesis statement that clearly identifies the purpose and scope of your manuscript.

*Quotations.* Integrate quotations into your narrative as logical, grammatical parts of the text. Usually quotations require further explanation to function productively within your text. We caution against excessive use of block quotes.

*Style.* We generally follow *The Chicago Manual of Style* for journal articles and book manuscripts. For details, see the [Religious Studies Center Style Guide](#). If another style (MLA, APA, etc.) is more appropriate to your discipline, check with us about using it.

*Note Placement.* You may use footnotes or endnotes. Link notes (attached to the text they refer to).

*Terminology.* Avoid jargon as much as possible. Define specialized terms if they need to be used.

*Sensitivity.* Use language that is free of bias (gender, race, religion, and so forth). Consult *Guidelines for Bias-Free Writing*, by Marilyn Schwartz (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1995). In some historical contexts, gender-specific terms may be appropriate.

*Illustrations.* Begin thinking now about possible illustrations, where you can find high-quality versions, and who holds the reproduction rights. Once your manuscript is accepted, provide photocopies or printouts of illustrations you would like to include, keeping track of the sources. The number and types of illustrations to be reproduced are subject to approval by the press. Don't pay for illustrations or their permissions until the publications director has confirmed that the illustrations will be used and that the rights granted in the permission are adequate for our needs.

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