

TALANTA

Peer-reviewed Journal for the Study of Antiquity

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AUTHORS' INSTRUCTIONS

Scope

TALANTA invites articles and book reviews on any subject related to the study of antiquity, including the languages, history, archaeology, and art history of the Mediterranean (including Roman provincial archaeology), the Near East, the Iranian world, and East-West relations, from the Bronze Age to Late Antiquity. Contributions should emphasize the importance of interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research. We particularly welcome studies that engage with the intersection of archaeological and historical studies, as well as those that critically interact with social and archaeological theory.

Submission

The journal publishes papers in English, French, German, Italian, and Spanish, although preference is given to articles in the English language.

We welcome submissions of articles of various lengths (max. 10,000 words), as well as book reviews (max. 1,000 words). The maximum number of words concerns the body text and the footnotes. Not included in the word count are the abstract (max. 150 words, articles only), figure captions, and the bibliography.

Authors should submit the following documents via e-mail to editors@talanta.nl:

1. A Word document of the contribution (including abstract) as an unformatted, plain text in Times New Roman (12 pt, spacing 1.5)
2. A PDF-file of the contribution
3. A signed Letter of Intention (available for download from the website)

Additionally, if the contribution contains illustrations:

4. All figures as TIFF or PNG files (at least 300 dpi)
5. A Word document with captions to illustrations

Peer review

Papers received for consideration will first be assessed by the editorial board. Submissions that are deemed suitable for TALANTA will be sent to two external peer-reviewers. Based on their reviews, the editors of TALANTA will then decide whether to accept or reject the submitted paper for publication.

Your article will be peer-reviewed on the basis of three criteria:

1. The quality of the argument.
2. The relevance to the theme and the scope of the journal.
3. The overall quality of the manuscript, *i.e.* the level of writing and its accuracy in terms of language, content, and novelty of the argument.

Illustrations

1. All illustrations (photographs, line drawings, maps, plans, and diagrams) are considered as figures. They should be numbered in their order of mention (figure 1, figure 2...) and provided with captions for each figure. Please indicate clearly in the text where a figure should be inserted.
2. Illustrations should be submitted as separate files; do not paste illustrations into the Word document. Please submit all artwork in digital format, in a high resolution of at least 300dpi for jpegs (raster images) and 600dpi for tiffs (line drawings). Please consult the editors at an early stage for specific illustration guidelines.
3. Captions to illustrations should be submitted in a separate Word-document. They should provide the exact provenance of each illustration, with acknowledgement of the right of reproduction. Please use the journal's referencing guidelines.
4. Refer to the illustrations in the text, either as 'Figure 3 shows the building from the east.....' or 'The building has decorations on the east façade (figure 3).'
5. If using artwork that is not your own original work, please ensure that you have the necessary permissions from the copyright holder. Attach copies of your permission

forms/materials with your final draft. The editors cannot promise any subventions to cover the cost of photographs or permissions.

Proofs

The authors receive a PDF of the first proofs via email. Authors should carefully check these proofs for errors and return corrections as soon as possible via e-mail to editors@talanta.nl.

Publication

We are a Green Open Access journal. Accepted contributions will be published in print (the author will receive two complimentary paper copies of the journal), as well as in PDF, which will be sent to individual authors. The PDF versions will be published on Talanta's website, www.talanta.nl, with a two-year gap behind a pay-wall, before they will be opened for Open Access.

STYLE SHEET

Length

Please limit your contribution to a maximum of 10,000 words, including footnotes. Not included in the word count are the abstract of ca. 150 words and the bibliography. The bibliographical references are not to be quoted in full in the footnotes, but should be included as a list at the end of the article, with abbreviated references according to the Harvard system (as indicated below) in the article and the footnotes.

Language of submission

For papers in English, please use only standard British English spellings. For reference use the *Oxford English Dictionary* and *New Oxford Dictionary for Writers and Editors*.

Footnotes

1. Footnotes (not endnotes) are to be placed at the bottom of the page. Do not use in-text notes except for very brief references to primary sources, e.g. '(Ammianus 15.3.3)'.
2. In general, please try to maximize your text by minimizing your notes. If something is important enough to discuss, this should be done in the main text. If not, you could consider leaving it out altogether.

3. Use a semicolon to separate individual works in a list of primary or bibliographical citations. Use full-stops to separate subsections in the same work. Use a comma to separate two different references in the same work.

E.g. Ammianus 23.14.2; Sidonius Apollinaris *Epistulae* 3.14.2, 4.11.3.

4. Make sure that all citations are complete, i.e. that journal citations have the proper volume and page numbers, and that primary sources have been checked.

5. Insert footnotes where they are relevant; please do not gather all your notes together at the end of a paragraph. Footnote numbers follow interpunction: .³ not ³.

References

Ancient source citations

1. Please include references to all citations, especially from ancient authors. If you state, e.g., ‘According to Ammianus...’, be sure to cite Ammianus.

2. For Latin titles, only the first word is capitalized, unless a subsequent word is a proper name, e.g. *De spiritu sancto* not *De Spiritu Sancto*; and *In Rufinum* not *In rufinum*.

3. In order to keep the volume accessible and comprehensible for a range of readers, please avoid the use of abbreviations for authors and their works, and other technical terminology.

Secondary sources

References to secondary sources should follow an adapted Harvard system, according to the following conventions:

1. Books cited in the article must be listed in a bibliography at the end of the paper, in the format: the surname(s) of the author(s), initials, date of publication, title, and place of publication.

Reference to these works in the text or footnotes is then to be made by the author’s surname, date of publication, and specific page number(s). For example:

Necipoğlu, N. (ed.) 2001. *Byzantine Constantinople: Monuments, Topography and Everyday Life* (The Medieval Mediterranean). Leiden.

Referred to as Necipoğlu 2001, 6–12

For multi-volume works the date of the volume consulted should be provided. For example:

Martindale, J.R. 1980. *The Prosopography of the Later Roman Empire*. Vol. 2: A.D. 395–527. Cambridge.

Saddington, D.B. 1975. 'Race relations in the Early Roman Empire.' In: W. Temporini and P. Hasse (eds.), *Aufstieg und Niedergang der römischen Welt* 2.3: 112–137. Berlin.

When citing more than one volume of the same work, refer to the date, volume number, and page number(s). For example:

Mitchell, S. 1993. *Anatolia: Land, Men, and Gods in Asia Minor*. 2 vols. Oxford.
Referred to as Mitchell 1993, 1.94.

In referring to a later edition of a work, you may wish to add the date of the first edition. This should be in the following format:

Rohde, E. 1914³ [1876]. *Der griechische Roman und seine Vorläufer*. Darmstadt.

2. In the case of cited articles, contributions in collections, and entries in reference works, the following must be provided: the surname(s) of the author(s), initials, date of publication, title of the article, name and volume of the journal or reference work, and full page numbers. For example:

Lloyd, G.E.R. 1968. 'Plato as a natural scientist', *Journal of Hellenic Studies* 88: 78–92.
Referred to as Lloyd 1968, 84.

Hankinson, R.J. 1999. 'Determinism and indeterminism', in K. Algra, J. Barnes, J. Mansfeld and M. Schofield (eds.), *The Cambridge History of Hellenistic Philosophy*. Cambridge. 513–541.

Note: In referring to modern works, page or column numbers must be given in full. The use of f. or ff. (or equivalents) should be avoided.

3. Translations of ancient works must be given in the following format:

Lattimore, R. (tr.) 1951. *Homer: The Iliad*. Chicago.

4. Translations of modern works must be given in the following format:

Maurach, G. (tr. D. Nardo) 1990. *Enchiridion poeticum: Introduzione alla lingua poetica latina*. Brescia.

5. Cite dissertations as you would books, e.g.,

Jones, R.W. 1979. *The Barbarization of Late-Roman Spain* (diss. Univ. of Salkahatchee).

6. Page ranges are to be indicated with an n-dash, as follows: 152–159. Do not use f. or ff.
7. Be sure to follow the capitalization rules appropriate for each language: in general, for French, Italian, and Spanish capitalize only the first word and proper nouns in a title; for German capitalize all nouns; for English the first and last words, nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, and all words of more than five letters, e.g. ‘Study in Political Prudence.’ not ‘Study in political prudence’.
8. Use italics for Latin and transliterated Greek words that appear in titles. Non-Roman characters must be submitted in Unicode.

Text Formatting

1. Except for tabs, **DO NOT** introduce any formatting control characters whatsoever into the text or notes, that is, line-spacing, margin changes or releases, font changes, and so on; and **do not use** any style formats.
2. Use one space after full points that end sentences, but no spaces after full-stops in series of initials: e.g. H.S. Smith, not H. S. Smith.
3. Begin paragraphs with a tab.
4. Use only one return at the end of paragraphs.
5. Each note should end with a full point.
6. One space after commas, colons, and semicolons.
7. Punctuation marks should be placed inside quotation marks only if they form part of the quoted text or the quoted text forms a grammatically complete sentence, e.g.:
‘May I suggest’, she said, ‘that you have a bath before supper?’
8. Enclose quoted matter between single quotation marks. Use double quotation marks for a quotation within a quotation.
9. Use square brackets in place of parentheses inside parenthetical material, e.g. (Jones [1979] 161).

10. Place a comma before the last word in a list of more than two items, e.g. ‘Jews, Christians, and Muslims’ not ‘Jews, Christians and Muslims’

12. Dates should be in day(number) month(spelled) year(number) format, E.g. ‘1 January 363’ *not* ‘January 1, 363’ or anything else.

13. Measures should be of the format, ‘350km’ not ‘350 km’ or ‘350 kilometres’

14. Give numbers up to nine in full, then from 10 onwards in Arabic digits (e.g. 33).

15. Long quotations should be indented, and have no quotation marks; short quotations have single quotes. Avoid double quotation marks except within existing quotations.

Grammar and Style

1. For subdivisions in the text, use centred ALL CAPITALS for primary subdivisions. Avoid secondary subdivisions, but if absolutely necessary use centred *Italicised Lower Case*.

2. Please translate all non-English language passages in the text, be they in ancient or modern languages. Include the primary language passage in the notes if you feel it is necessary. Keep in mind that all quotations will count against your 10,000-word limit. Under no circumstances leave lengthy passages in Latin, Greek, Syriac, or any other foreign language in the text.

3. Please be sure that verb tenses are consistent. When speaking of events that occurred in the past or texts that were written in the ancient past, use the past tense, e.g. ‘Ishoyahb stressed that...’ not ‘Ishoyahb stresses that...’ When speaking of modern scholarship, use present tense, e.g. ‘Jones argues that...’

4. References to modern persons in the text should be by last name only, e.g. ‘As Smith has shown,...’ not ‘As M.S. Smith has shown...’ (unless necessary to distinguish between authors with the same last name).

5. Use abbreviations such as e.g., i.e., only in notes; in the text, write out: ‘For example...’, ‘Such as...’, ‘That is....’

6. For approximate dates, use ‘c.’ *not* ‘ca.’ or ‘circa,’ without intervening space.

7. Unless your chapter includes BCE dates, you need not stipulate BCE or CE. Only use BCE and CE, without punctuation. Do not use AD or BC.

8. Italicise Latin words and phrases. Direct quotations of two lines or less should be included in the text inside quotation marks in the following format:

Augustine heard, ‘*Tolle lege,*’ but to what did this really refer?

9. Direct quotations of three lines or more should be in block quotation format, e.g.:

Claudian begins his *In Rufinum*:

*Saepe mihi dubiam traxit sententia mentem,
curarent superi terras an nullus inesset
rector et incerto fluerent mortalia casu.*

10. Only use capitals where necessary, e.g. east, west, orthodoxy, iconoclasm, the emperor (but the Emperor Maurice). As a general rule of thumb, if you are talking about something in general terms, e.g. the king, the church, then the nouns will take lower case; if you are talking about the King of England, the Church of Rome, then capitals should be used.

11. When referring to centuries, spell out and do not capitalize. e.g. ‘In the fourth century...’ not ‘In the 4th c. [or Fourth Century]...’

For adjectival uses, hyphenate: ‘A fourth-century specimen...’ not ‘A fourth century [or 4th c.] specimen...’ ‘In the mid-fifth century’ not ‘In the mid fifth century’

12. The names of officials should be left in lower case, whether in Latin or English. If in Latin, they should be italicized, e.g.:

‘praetorian prefect,’ not ‘Praetorian Prefect’

‘*praefectus urbi,*’ not ‘*Praefectus Urbi*’ or ‘*Praefectus urbi*’

13. Be sure that foreign words in modern languages have the correct accents, and in ancient languages have the correct characters, spelling, and accents.

Transliterations

The editors urge the authors to use the following standards of transliteration from Russian, Bulgarian, and Greek in their contributions:

Russian:

Aa = a

Зз = z

Пп = p

Чч = ch

Бб = b

Ии = i

Рр = r

Шш = sh

Вв = v	Йй = y	Сс = s	Щщ = shch
Гг = g	Кк = k	Тт = t	Ъъ = ' (apostrophe)
Дд = d	Лл = l	Уу = u	Ыы = y
Ее = ye, e ⁽¹⁾	Мм = m	Фф = f	Ээ = e
Ёё = yë, ë ⁽¹⁾	Нн = n	Хх = kh	Юю = yu
Жж = zh	Оо = o	Цц = ts	Яя = ya

⁽¹⁾ ye initially, after vowels, and after Ъ and ъ; e elsewhere; when written as ë in Russian, transliterate accordingly as yë or ë.

Bulgarian:

Аа = a	Жж = zh	Мм = m	Тт = t	Шш = sh
Бб = b	Зз = z	Нн = n	Уу = u	Щщ = sht
Вв = v	Ии = i	Оо = o	Фф = f	Ъъ =
Гг = g	Йй = y	Пп = p	Хх = kh	ь = ' (apostrophe)
Дд = d	Кк = k	Рр = r	Цц = ts	Юю = yu
Ее = e	Лл = l	Сс = s	Чч = ch	Яя = ya

Greek:

Αα = a	Εε = e	Ιι = i	Νν = n	Ρρ = r	Φφ = f
Ββ = b	Ζζ = z	Κκ = k	Ξξ = x	Σσ, ζ = s	Χχ = ch
Γγ = g	Ηη = ê	Λλ = l	Οο = o	Ττ = t	Ψψ = ps
Δδ = d	Θθ = th	Μμ = m	Ππ = p	Υυ = u	Ωω = ô

The spiritus asper is to be rendered as h.

Last updated: April 2024