



# The Yale Law Journal

## VOLUME 124 SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

*The Yale Law Journal* invites the submission of unsolicited Articles, Essays, Book Reviews, and *Yale Law Journal Online* Essays and Responses via our online submission system. We are no longer accepting pieces forwarded from services such as ExpressO. Please email us at [submissions@yalelawjournal.org](mailto:submissions@yalelawjournal.org) if you encounter any problems using our online interface.

### I. Timing Your Submissions to the *Journal* and Other Publications

**Exclusive Submission:** We consider each manuscript we receive using an extensive review process, which can take several weeks. In the past, some authors have been faced with the uncomfortable pressure of having to make a decision about an offer from another journal before we were able to complete our review process. The best way to avoid this situation is to allow the *Journal* time to review your piece. **We encourage you to submit your piece to us exclusively for two weeks.** If you are submitting during the summer, we suggest that you not submit to any other journal before August 24. Authors submitting to us on an exclusive basis should use the prompts on our online submission system to indicate the date on which they will send their piece to other journals.

**Expedite Requests:** If you have received an offer of publication from another journal, please request expedited review of your submission via your author submissions account (<http://ylj.yalelawjournal.org/authors/index.html>), and our editors will be immediately notified of your deadline. If you are confronted with an imminent deadline, please also email [submissions@yalelawjournal.org](mailto:submissions@yalelawjournal.org). Please note that because of our extensive review system, any submission that is expedited for a date less than three weeks from our initial receipt of the piece may be disadvantaged. To avoid this problem, we again encourage you to submit to us on an exclusive basis for a limited time period. **The vast majority of the pieces we have accepted in recent volumes have not been expedited, and expedited review provides your piece with no competitive advantage in our process.**

### II. Forms of Scholarship

The *Journal* publishes non-student scholarship under three rubrics: Articles, Essays, and Book Reviews. We also accept pieces for publication in *YLJ Online*.

**Articles and Essays:** The division between Articles and Essays is not rigid, but it helps us and our readers to distinguish between longer, more systematic pieces and shorter, more exploratory ones. Recent examples of successful Essays include Ian Ayres & Richard Luedeman, *Tops, Bottoms, and Versatiles: What Straight Views of Penetrative Preferences Could Mean for Sexuality Claims Under Price Waterhouse*, 123 YALE L.J. 714 (2013); Saul Levmore & Ariel Porat, *Asymmetries and Incentives in Plea Bargaining and Evidence Production*, 122 YALE L.J. 690 (2012); Benjamin I. Sachs, *The Unbundled Union: Politics Without Collective Bargaining*, 123 YALE L.J. 148 (2013); and Adrian Vermeule, *Contra Nemo Iudex in Sua Causa: The Limits*

of *Impartiality*, 122 YALE L.J. 384 (2012). You may submit your piece as either an Essay or an Article to help us more accurately assess your piece. However, our editors may consider each submission for both categories unless you request that we not do so.

**Book Reviews:** The *Journal* also invites scholars and practitioners to submit reviews of books that are forthcoming or that have been published within the past twenty-four months. We prefer reviews of books that have not yet been discussed extensively elsewhere. Examples from recent issues of the *Journal* include Josh Chafetz, *Multiplicity in Federalism and the Separation of Powers*, 120 YALE L.J. 1084 (2011) (reviewing ALISON L. LACROIX, *THE IDEOLOGICAL ORIGINS OF AMERICAN FEDERALISM* (2010)); Michael W. McConnell, *Why Protect Religious Freedom?*, 123 YALE L.J. 770 (2013) (reviewing BRIAN LEITER, *WHY TOLERATE RELIGION?* (2013)); and Frederick Schauer, *The Best Laid Plans*, 120 YALE L.J. 586 (2010) (reviewing SCOTT J. SHAPIRO, *LEGALITY* (2011)). We hope to publish several book reviews in Volume 124.

**YLJ Online:** *YLJ Online* seeks scholarship that is shorter, timelier, and more accessible to a general audience than pieces published in the print pages of the *Journal*. We publish three broad types of work in *YLJ Online*. First, we welcome essays that grapple with timely, relevant issues as they unfold, and therefore merit swifter publication than the print medium might allow. Second, we encourage scholars and practitioners to submit responses to recent pieces published in the print *Journal*. Third, we solicit dialogues that bring together a range of different perspectives on a contemporary legal, political, or social issue. Students are also welcome to submit work in any of these categories.

### III. Requirements for the Content of Submissions

**Length:** We are committed to publishing work that is concise and readable. Recently, the *Journal* joined eleven other leading law journals in affirming our commitment to this goal. Our length guidelines are as follows:

- For Articles, we strongly encourage submissions of **fewer than 25,000 words, including footnotes** (roughly 50 *Journal* pages).
- For Essays, we strongly encourage submissions of **fewer than 17,500 words, including footnotes** (roughly 35 *Journal* pages).
- For Book Reviews, we strongly encourage submissions of **fewer than 10,000 words, including footnotes** (roughly 20 *Journal* pages).
- For *YLJ Online*, we strongly encourage submissions of **fewer than 6,000 words, including footnotes**.

For submissions that exceed these word counts, length will be a factor that weighs significantly against acceptance of the manuscript.

**Anonymity:** We review manuscripts anonymously, without regard to the author's name, prior publications, or pending publication offers. We therefore ask that you remove all

identifying information (including your name, affiliation, and acknowledgments) from the manuscript and the file name. Please also redact any identifying information in headers and footnotes. Do ensure, however, that the title of the manuscript appears on the first page.

**Abstract:** Please include a short abstract with your submission.

**Data:** We strongly recommend submitting datasets with any empirical submissions, and we may request these files before deciding whether to extend an offer of publication. We are able to consider the piece more quickly if the files are provided at the time of submission.

#### **IV. Restrictions on Student Authorship**

Volume 124 of the *Journal* will not review submissions for inclusion in its Articles and Essays sections if the sole author is a current J.D. student (at Yale Law School or elsewhere). We strongly encourage current YLS students to submit their scholarship to the *Journal* for consideration as Notes, Comments, and Online Essays. We will consider Articles and Essays co-authored by J.D. students if one of the co-authors is not a current J.D. student.

#### **V. Conflicts of Interest**

Once a submission is accepted by the *Journal*, the author will be required to disclose all potential conflicts of interest in the first footnote of the published version. Authors must identify any organizations that provided funding for the research or writing of the manuscript, as well as any personal or family financial interests that might be pertinent. Authors must also disclose their involvement in any litigation that is referenced in or relevant to the Article, Essay, Book Review, or *YLJ Online* piece. The *Journal's* publication offers are all contingent upon authors' compliance with this conflict-of-interest policy.