

# **Academic Publishing**

# **Journals**

# Finding Journals in Your Field

- Directory of Open Access Journals
- Ulrichsweb: Global Serials Directory (by subscription)
- MLA Directory of Periodicals

# Target an Appropriate Journal

- Strategy: top professional journals are *exceedingly competitive*
- For those still completing degrees: consider submitting an article to a student oriented journal
  - Good place to start the publishing process
- Get published by writing a review or a response
- Two things to keep in mind when choosing a journal:
  - 1. Review Times
  - 2. Policies on multiple submissions

# Submissions Process for Article Publishing

- After selecting a journal, author should examine recent issues
- The author should submit an appropriately finished copy (or copies) in the prescribed format, together with a brief cover letter
- The cover letter – indicate the significance of the article, why it's a good fit for the journal
- Most journals now prefer electronic submissions, but paper submissions should be accompanied with return postage

# Tips for Journal Publishing

- **1. Say Something New**
  - Need new or novel ideas to publish
  - Successful academic articles do two things:
    - Position themselves within existing scholarship
    - Build on existing knowledge.

# Tips for Journal Publishing

- **2. Edit your work extensively**
  - Fix confusing sentences. Write in short, concise sentences.
  - Avoid the passive voice.
  - Focus on a story that progresses logically, not chronologically
  - Don't bury your argument. Set writing goals, try not to write and edit at the same time
  - Don't try to cram your PhD into a 6,000 word paper

# Tips for Journal Publishing

- **3. Reference your work strategically**
  - References are your source of credibility in an academic paper
  - How to pick the right references
    - Go to the original source
    - Cite articles from the journal to which you are submitting



# Tips for Journal Publishing

- **4. Dealing with Feedback**

- When resubmitting a paper following revisions, include a detailed document summarizing all the changes suggested by the reviewers, and how you have changed your manuscript in light of them. Read it, think about it for several days, discuss with others, and then draft a response.

# Publication of Journal Articles

- Even after the agreement to publish, the editor may still ask for revisions, and the final work will normally be copyedited before it is printed

# Books

# Which Press?

- The presses you cite the most are the ones you probably should consider approaching.
- Things to think about:
  - Are they publishing in your area?
  - Is your work possibly a next direction for their list?
  - Do they do ebooks?
  - Do they publish paperbacks immediately?
  - Do their books get good reviews in the leading journals?

# Book Submission Process

- After identifying suitable presses, the author submits a prospectus. This typically includes:
  - Cover letter
  - Discussion of the work's scholarly or professional significance and intended audience
  - A statement of the manuscript's length and schedule completion date
  - An abstract
  - A table of contents
  - An introduction or preface
  - Sample chapter
  - Curriculum vitae
- An author should not submit an entire manuscript without a publisher's invitation to do so
- If reviews on the publisher's end are favorable, the publisher presents the manuscript to a governing board or committee. On approval by the board, the publisher notifies the author and forwards a contract for signature.
- A clear understanding between author and publisher about the terms of the contract is essential
  - ie, responsibility for obtaining permission to quote copyright material will be allocated

# Tips from Publishers

- 1. Can your book be used to teach?
- 2. Publishing success starts with choosing the right publisher
- 3. Potential authors have to actively engage in marketing their book
- 4. Perseverance
- 5. Prepare to revise

# Resources on Publishing Books

- **The Making of Anthropology at the Dawn of the Cold War** – one author's three-part blog on how they got their book published
- **From Dissertation to Book and Getting It Published, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition** by William Germano