



## Peer Reviewer Guidelines

Thank you for agreeing to peer review an article for *Religion Compass* – a unique online survey journal from Blackwell Publishing. Please take a few moments to read over these notes in their entirety.

### *What is Religion Compass?*

*Religion Compass* offers the quality of a scholarly journal combined with the speed and functionality of the Web.

*Religion Compass* is designed to help all academics and advanced students involved in teaching and research to do the following:

- keep up with developments in your own field and areas related to it
- teach in a new or unfamiliar area
- ensure that students are exposed only to quality-controlled online content (as opposed to unvalidated content from search engines)

### *Religion Compass Articles*

Compass articles should always offer some reference to the current scholarship and be accessible to the non-specialist reader; *Religion Compass* does not publish pure primary research.

Compass articles typically fall into at least one of the following three categories:

#### *1) Overview of a topic in your field with a survey of recent scholarship*

This may tackle the following questions: How is this topic driving the field? What new research has been published? Can that new research be put in context with new insights?

#### *2) Comparative look across sections or boundaries*

This may tackle the following questions: How are various fields interacting? Are there related things happening in different fields? Can one area provide an insight into another when used in teaching or research?

### 3) *State of the field*

This may tackle the following questions: Can a fresh perspective be offered on developments in the field? Perhaps there are arguments drawing attention away from the critical points? Are there new resources worthy of attention? Which critical approaches are dominating the field or gaining momentum?

**As a peer reviewer for *Religion Compass*, we ask you to consider the following main questions when evaluating an article:**

- Does this article fulfill the objectives of a Compass article as described?
- Does it make a contribution to the current understanding of the field?
- Is it accessible to non-specialists? Would this be useful to someone new entering the field?

**We would like to emphasise that the journal provides very concise 'state-of-the-field' articles with an upper limit of around 5,000 words. This article is intended to accurately present the broad contours of the literature, and to point the reader to further details, rather than necessarily going into full detail themselves. Please bear these ideals in mind. Thank you!**

THANK YOU ON BEHALF OF THE *RELIGION COMPASS* TEAM FOR YOUR REVIEW!