



## Notes for Peer Reviewers of Compass Articles

Thank you for agreeing to peer review an article for *Sociology Compass* – the unique online survey journal from Wiley-Blackwell. Please take a moment to read over these notes.

### **What is *Sociology Compass*?**

*Sociology Compass* offers the quality of a scholarly journal combined with the speed and functionality of the Web. Please visit [www.blackwell-compass.com](http://www.blackwell-compass.com) for more information about the Compass journals.

*Sociology Compass* is designed to help all academics and advanced students involved in the 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).
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In addition, the journal also offers select Teaching & Learning Guides, themed Compass Clusters, and VLE / CMS compatibility (e.g. Blackboard, WebCT, Moodle).

The *My Compass* feature further enables every user to build, email and save reading lists.

### ***Sociology Compass* Articles**

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

Articles will fall into at least one of the following three categories and will answer one or more of the questions below:

**1) Recent research and debates in your field** – What debates are driving your field? What new research has been published? What does it add to these debates or the field more generally? Can you put that new research in context? Does a new school of thought or paradigm seem to be developing? Has a new controversy erupted?

**2) Comparative look across sections or boundaries** – Are there related things happening in different fields? How are various fields interacting? Can you suggest comparisons that have not been fully explored? Can one area provide an insight into another when used in teaching or research?

**3) State of the field** – Can you offer a fresh perspective on developments in your field? Perhaps there are arguments or fads drawing attention away from what you think are the critical points? Which critical approaches are dominating the field or gaining momentum? Are there resources or archives that are new or underused and are worthy of attention? Has the field been affected by or is it impacting on current affairs? Which critical approaches are dominating the field or gaining momentum? Is your area well and fairly covered in the media?

Unlike most reviews journals, *Sociology Compass* does encourage authors to take a position on the issues, so please bear this in mind when you prepare your comments.

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

- Does this article fulfill the objectives of a *Sociology Compass* article as described above?
- Does it make a contribution to the current understanding of the field?
- Is this article accessible to non-specialists? Would it be useful to someone new entering the field?
- Have any issues been neglected or given an unbalanced treatment?

**THANK YOU ON BEHALF OF THE *SOCIOLOGY COMPASS* EDITORIAL TEAM  
FOR YOUR PROMPT REVIEW**