

Journal of Human Rights and Social Work

Guidelines for Special Issue Proposals



Interested in being a guest editor for a special issue of the *Journal of Human Rights and Social Work*? Special issues can afford the opportunity to interact with other professionals in your sub-field, expand your professional knowledge and experience, as well as expand your professional experience. They are a good deal of work and those proposing a special issue should be confident in their ability to commit the necessary time in first publicizing the special issue and then managing the review process.

Special Issues of the *Journal of Human Rights and Social Work* are designed to draw attention to under-researched or controversial topics or to emerging human rights themes. Special Issues may also focus on areas in which the leading scholarship has been confined to other discipline-based journals, but which would benefit from a greater and more direct interchange provided by *JHRSW* readership. The topics of Special Issues should be broad enough to appeal to readers with expertise and/or interest in a range of human rights and social work issues. The ultimate goal of a *JHRSW* Special Issue should be the publication of insightful and influential research and practice.

JHRSW publishes four issues annually in March, June, October, and December. To meet publication deadlines, there is approximately a year window from Notification of Successful Applicants to Publication. Below is an example timeline. Guest editors should strongly consider their ability to make the final deadline.

Proposal Approved	August 1
Send out Call for Proposals (if applicable)	September 1
First Round of Papers Due (to Guest Editor)	March 1
Papers sent out for review	March 15
Blind Reviews completed	April 15
All reviews sent to authors	May 1
Revised papers from authors	June 1
Any final revisions due	July 1
Final Manuscripts to Production	July 15
SI Publication	September 1

Special Issue: Types and Requirements

Proposals must include the following elements. Manuscripts may be invited or received through a general call for papers, or a mix of both. Regardless of method, all articles must be submitted to peer-review.

- Suggested title
- Background and Rationale for the theme of the special issue,
- Brief summary of current scholarship in the area justifying Special Issue
- Guest editor's background relevant to the proposal, affiliation, contact details and a current c.v.
- List of any invited contributors, their relation to the theme, and 200-250 word abstract for each manuscript.
- A copy of the Call for Papers and a list of marketing venues (e.g., listservs, professional organizations, etc...), if applicable
- List of at least four experts who might be able to review manuscripts for the special issue.

Proposals will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- Fit with the JHRSW aims and scope (see <http://link.springer.com/journal/41134>)
- Quality and thoroughness of the formal proposal
- Appeal to a broad and international segment of JHRSW readership
- Scholarly credentials of the proposed Guest Editor(s)
 - For SI proposals with a General Call (#2 above): proposed ability to attract high-quality submissions from influential scholars who are experts in the predetermined theme. If applicable, scholarly credentials of authors and quality of invited manuscripts.

If accepted, the Guest Editor(s) prepares an introduction/editorial that reviews the significance of attention to the topic of the Special Issue, suggests new directions for research, and provides a synopsis and integrative analysis of the collective contributions of manuscripts within the Special Issue. The editorial will go through a review process managed by the Editor-in-Chiefs. The Guest Editor(s) may not themselves submit to the special issue as this would violate blind peer-review procedures.

The co-editors may reject a special issue manuscript if members of the editorial board deem it inappropriate for the journal or not in accordance with the standards of the journal; the manuscripts are not prepared in accordance with the instructions; copyright agreements signed by all authors are not submitted; the issue is submitted beyond the agreed upon deadline for successful production and publication.

Special Issue proposals should be sent to gateniogabel@fordham.edu & mapps@etown.edu



<http://www.springer.com/journal/41134>

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