

The Scriblerian

AND THE KIT-CATS

Style Sheet for *Scriblerian* Reviewers

The Scriblerian follows the MLA Style sheet in bibliographic and footnote form (slightly modified). The following suggestions reduce errors:

1. Please give us generous margins on both left and right sides.
2. Please indent for paragraphing.
3. The best style manual is, of course, *The Scriblerian*; if you and your library do not subscribe, now is the best time to do so.

Book Reviews

1. Double-space the heading as well as the text.
2. Your author's name appears first in normal word order, for example:

VÁCLAV HAVEL. *The Beggar's Opera*, trans. Paul Wilson, introd. Peter Steiner. Ithaca: Cornell, 2001. Pp. xxxi + 84. \$25; \$15 (paper).

3. The title is in italics. If the title is not in English, please translate it; for example:

MARIALUISA BIGNAMI. *Daniel Defoe dal Saggio al Romanzo (Daniel Defoe from Essayist to Novelist)*. Firenze: La Nuova Italia Editrice, 1984. Pp. xi + 130. € 120.

4. The place of publication and publisher (in that order) and date come next. See examples above. Omit "university" and "press" from names of presses. Omit states unless the city/press is quite unknown (see example 1 above). Where several places of publication are listed, use the first place only (if New Haven and London, use only New Haven).

5. Pagination. The introduction is in roman numerals (see examples above).

6. Price. It should be given in the currency offered by the publisher (see examples above). If the book appears in two forms— hard and soft— list the hard first, use a semicolon, then the soft followed by paper (see example 1 above). If the price is not on the jacket or enclosed, please use on-line sites to find it (preferably the publisher's, but also Amazon, etc.).

7. For multiple volumes:

The Dictionary of Eighteenth-Century British Philosophers, ed. John Yolton, John Vladimir Price, and John Stephens. 2 vols. Bristol: Thoemmes, 1999. Pp. xxiii + 1012. \$550.

8. For an edited book, see example 7 above.

9. After the review, your name (in italics) should be flush with the left margin. On the same line: your university affiliation, if any (also in italics), flush with the right. For example:

Elizabeth Kraft

University of Georgia

Article Reviews

1. Double-space all lines, including the heading.

2. The author's last name is first and should be flush with the left margin. For example:

Kelly, James. "The Worcester Affair," *RES*, 51 (February 2000), 1-23.

3. If the title is not in English, please translate it. For example:

Calzecchi-Onesti, Cristina. "Leopardi e i Traduttori di Pope" (Leopardi and the Translators of Pope), *RLI*, 92 (January-April 1988), 77-82.

4. Abbreviate the titles of journals if they are listed in the annual *PMLA Bibliography* (see examples above).

5. Include the month as well as the year.

6. Page numbers (137-139) and year ranges (1721-1729) are always given in full.

7. After your review, your name (in italics) should be flush with the left margin; your university affiliation, if any (in italics) flush with the right margin. For example:

Paula R. Backsheider

Auburn University

Content

Your review should be compact and critical. It is not an abstract. Point out the major strengths and shortcomings, and praise or blame as you see fit. Remember that *The Scriblerian* pays tribute to the age of Pope and Swift; we encourage wit and verve, even sharpness, not for their own sake, but because "sometimes it is difficult not to write satire."

Punctuation

1. Follow American practices:

a. Commas and periods remain inside quotation marks: "... useless," "deadly,"

b. Use double quotation marks for quotations.

2. For possessives of a name ending in s, add 's, as in "Mr. Pinkus's essay."

Quotations

Two or three lines of poetry do not need an indentation; use a slash at the end of each line (" . . . what sin to me unknown / Dipt me in ink . . .?"). There should be space before and after the slash.

House Style

1. Use Mr. for males (Mr. Wilson argues) and Ms. for females (In Ms. Wilson's study). Never use the author's full name; it is in the heading. Authors and other figures mentioned in the review are cited by last name only, not Mr. or Ms. (Descartes, not Mr. Decartes).
2. No salutation for critics discussed in the review (Booth, Derrida).
3. Write out eighteenth century and other centuries (hyphenate if used as an adjective).
4. Little-known works should be dated, as in *Mundus Muliebris* (1690).
5. For dashes, use two hyphens with no space before or after them (death--clearly unforeseen). Note: an em dash (—) is preferable if possible.
6. After a work is cited in full, it should be cited with an abbreviated title (*Travels* for *Gulliver's Travels*).
7. If you quote from an essay or book, do not cite the page(s) it came from.
8. The words "Preface," "Introduction," "Foreword," and "Afterword" should be capitalized when you refer to a specific work.
9. Do not use brackets. Use parentheses within parentheses.
10. De-gender your prose. Use plurals to avoid he/she constructions: "When readers are annoyed, they shut the book" rather than "When the reader is annoyed, he or she shuts the book."
11. Avoid abbreviations (such as e.g. and i.e.); we prefer: "for example" and "that is."
12. Choose American spelling (such as theater, skepticism).
13. For dates, follow the American pattern: month, day, year (May 17, 2001).
14. Spell out numbers up through nineteen (six and 21).

Reviews are generally due mid-February and mid-July each year. Lead-time for publication is roughly fifteen months, although we strive to publish your review within a year of receipt. Completed reviews (preferably in MS Word) and inquiries should be sent to wbgerard@scriblerian.net.