



American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly Guidelines for Referees

(Rev. 11/2010)

The *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* is the official journal of the American Catholic Philosophical Association. Established in 1927, under the title *The New Scholasticism*, this peer-reviewed journal publishes scholarly articles, topical discussions, and book reviews in all areas of philosophy (including history of philosophy) relevant to the Catholic intellectual tradition. Because the journal does not limit itself to any particular philosophical method or approach (such as analytic, Continental, Thomist, etc.), authors are encouraged to write in a way that is intelligible to a broad spectrum of academically trained philosophers. At the same time, authors should intelligently engage the specialist literature relevant to their topic.

The *AC PQ* asks that referees' reports include both (1) written **comments** on the article and (2) a **recommendation** as to whether the article should be accepted for publication.

1. Comments

Referees' comments are both an indispensable basis for editorial decisions and a valuable source of constructive feedback for authors. You may want to consider the following points as you evaluate the paper:

Style, tone, and organization: Is the paper well written? Is the style lucid? Does the paper maintain an appropriate academic tone? Is the essay coherently organized?

Argument: Is the argument of the paper clear and compelling? Does the paper anticipate and respond to reasonable objections or alternative interpretations of texts?

Relevance: Is the paper interesting and important? What contribution does the paper make on the topics it discusses, or to philosophical inquiry more broadly?

Sources: Does the paper sufficiently engage existing literature on the topic? Does the paper sufficiently engage and accurately cite the texts it discusses? If the paper discusses a historical figure, are the best available editions of texts cited and are quotations of texts provided in the original language? (If not, and if reference to certain editions and/or texts in their original language is required by the nature of the author's project, please include a note to that effect.)

Referees are encouraged to provide written comments in an email or separate document, rather than making comments on the manuscript itself.

2. Recommendation

The referee's review should indicate whether the article ought to be:

- (a) accepted without requiring revision,
- (b) conditionally accepted, pending revision,
- (c) rejected, but with an invitation to the author to revise and resubmit, or
- (d) rejected with no such invitation.



AMERICAN CATHOLIC PHILOSOPHICAL QUARTERLY

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If the recommendation is for “(a),” acceptance without revision, please describe the contribution that the paper makes.

If the recommendation is for “(b),” conditional acceptance, the report should include clear and specific indications about what the author must fix in order to make the paper suitable for publication.

If the recommendation is for “(c),” rejection, but with invitation to revise and resubmit, suggestions to the author may be of a more general nature—since, in such a case, substantial re-writing will likely be required.

Finally, if the recommendation is for “(d),” rejection without invitation to revise, please explain the essential flaws of the paper.

Referees are asked to email their decisions to acpq@stthomas.edu within approximately two months of agreeing to consider an article. If the referee does not have access to email, a letter may be sent to the following address:

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