

## FEMINIST LEGAL STUDIES: INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS

April 2021

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## AIMS AND SCOPE

*Feminist Legal Studies* is committed to an internationalist perspective and to the promotion and advancement of feminist scholarship in all areas of law. It aims to publish critical, interdisciplinary, theoretically engaged feminist scholarship relating to law (broadly conceived) and has a particular interest in work that extends feminist debates and analysis by reference to critical and theoretical approaches and perspectives, including postcolonial, transnational and poststructuralist work.

Although the focus of the journal is law, the editorial board encourages the submission of papers from people working outside the academy, as well as academics, other than lawyers, and including interdisciplinary work. The editorial board is a collective drawn from feminists working at leading law schools across the UK and Ireland. A full list of the editorial board can found on the Journal's website: <http://www.springer.com/law/international/journal/10691?detailsPage=editorialBoard>

Alongside traditional articles and book reviews *Feminist Legal Studies* is committed to publishing material that challenges conventional forms of academic writing/knowledge and encourages creative approaches to scholarship, analysis and debate. Such material is normally published in our 'Creative Content' section (see guidelines for submission below). The board also welcomes considered proposals for themed issues of the journal (see further below).

## MANUSCRIPT AND BOOK REVIEW SUBMISSION

Prospective authors should submit their manuscripts via the publisher's 'editorial manager' system: <http://www.editorialmanager.com/fest/>.

New authors will be required to register and will be assigned a personal ID and login. To submit a manuscript, authors should login as an 'author' via the 'login' tab in the left-hand corner of the Editorial Manager homepage. Once you have done so you will be able to submit your manuscript and track its progress through the system. We prefer manuscripts to be submitted as Word files. Please note that PDF is not an acceptable file format. In general, use as few formatting codes as possible. *Please do not design your manuscript (e.g., with different fonts and styles).*

Please remember this is an international journal for an international readership. Do not assume local legal, political or cultural knowledge.

## 'CREATIVE CONTENT' SUBMISSION

General Word limit: 2000 - 4000 words (with some exceptions)

Creative content submissions are not usually peer reviewed. Creative content editors and board members will review submissions internally and provide an author with feedback.

- What we are looking for:
- Roundtable discussions
- Interviews
- Poetry
- Film reviews
- Responses to popular culture
- Artwork and photography
- Material that challenges conventional forms of academic writing
- Reflective narratives

- Creative conceptual work
- Activist commentary that wouldn't otherwise find an academic audience

We do not accept unsolicited case notes. If you wish to propose a case note please get in touch with the Creative Content editors (see [editorial board members](#)) with a 200-word proposal.

## THEMED ISSUES

The editorial board of *Feminist Legal Studies* welcomes proposals for themed or special issues of the journal. Proposals should provide details of the theme; proposed editors, authors and paper titles; proposed schedule including submission date; and why the issue would be particularly suitable for *Feminist Legal Studies* (up to five pages). The proposal should include enough information for the board to be able to form a view both on the content of the proposed issue, and why the proposed editors are well placed to manage the process. Typically, a special issue will include an introductory paper by the guest editors setting the scene for the papers that follow. The copy for a themed issue should not exceed 40,000 words, but guest editors have discretion as to how they use that word limit (this should be included in the proposal). In compiling themed/special issues, guest editors are particularly encouraged to include work by early career researchers.

Following submission (via the Editorial Manager system), the papers will be subject to the journal's normal refereeing process, and referees will also be asked to comment on the coherence and original contribution of the issue as a whole. Papers must be formatted according to the *Feminist Legal Studies* style guide. Guest editors are also expected to keep the coordinating editor overseeing the issue apprised in a timely fashion regarding progress toward completion of the special issue.

Guest editors should note that it is expected that work published in the journal contributes to feminist legal debates and makes an original contribution to knowledge. A special issue will not be accepted if the papers do not meet this standard.

Proposals will be considered by the editorial board on a rolling basis, and may be submitted at any time to the journal's Academic Editor (Editor-in-Chief). Further queries about ideas or the process for themed issues should also be directed to the Academic Editor.

## REVIEWING/REFEREING PROCEDURE

*Feminist Legal Studies* follows a double-blind reviewing procedure. Authors should submit a separate title page (alongside their manuscript) which includes:

- **article type** (indicate clearly whether the manuscript being submitted is an article, case note, book review, essay review or some other type).
- a concise and informative **title**
- author(s) name(s)
- **author(s) affiliation(s) and addresses**
- the e-mail address of the corresponding author

The manuscript should be submitted as a separate file *without author details*. Self-identifying citations and references in the article text should either be avoided or left blank when manuscripts are first submitted. Authors are responsible for reinserting self-identifying citations and references when manuscripts are prepared for final submission.

## MANUSCRIPT PRESENTATION

## **Language**

The journal's language is English. Please use British English spelling and terminology; for example *-ise* (not *-ize*) endings, as in *analyse* and *organisation*, and *-our* (not *-or*), as in *labour* and *behaviour*.<sup>1</sup>

## **Word Length**

Manuscripts for articles (including references) should not normally exceed 9,000- 10,000 words. Reflections, commentary or creative content should normally not exceed 4,000 words. Book reviews may vary from 500 to 2,000 words and should provide full details of the book(s) (including ISBN number) being reviewed at the head (see further below).

## **Page Size and Margins**

Manuscripts should be typewritten on A4, one side only, leaving adequate margins on all sides.

## **Font**

Use a normal, plain font (e.g., 12-point Times Roman) for text. Use italics for emphasis.

## **Spacing**

Please double space all material, including headings, footnotes and references.

## **Page Numbering**

Number the pages consecutively, using the automatic page numbering function in Word.

## **Abstract**

Please provide an abstract of 100 to 150 words. The abstract should indicate the substantive claims of the article, and not merely list the topics discussed. It should contain any undefined abbreviations or unspecified references.

## **Keywords**

Please provide 4 to 6 keywords or short phrases in alphabetical order, which can be used for indexing purposes.

## **Manuscript Titles**

All titles should be in bold and lower case with capital first letters (title case).

## **Section Headings**

Please use no more than three levels of displayed headings. All headings should be aligned against the left margin. First-order headings should be in bold and lower case with capital first letters. Second-order headings should be in normal text and lower case with capital first letters. Third-order headings should be italicised, with a capital letter only for the first word. Leave a line before and after each heading. Do not number the headings.

For example,

First-order heading:

Canadian Committee Hearings on Same-Sex Marriage

Second-order heading:

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<sup>1</sup> For further guidance on British English spelling see:  
<https://www.britishcouncilfoundation.id/en/english/articles/british-and-american-english>

## Arguments for Same-Sex Marriage

Third-order heading

*Marriage as the gold standard*

### **Justification**

Text should be justified throughout, with the first line of each paragraph indented (except where it immediately follows a heading). Use tab stops or other commands for indents, not the space bar. Also justify footnotes, abstract, acknowledgments and reference list.

### **Abbreviations**

Abbreviations should be defined at first mention in the text and used consistently thereafter, e.g.: the International Labor Organisation (ILO), the European Union (EU), the United Kingdom (UK). Abbreviations only need to be defined once.

### **Quotations**

Quotations of more than 40 words should be set off clearly by indenting (both left and right). For quotations of 40 words or less, use double quotation marks for direct quotations and single quotation marks for quotations within quotations, and for words or phrases used in a special sense.

### **Tables**

Use the table function, not spreadsheets, to make tables.

### **Acknowledgements**

Acknowledgements of people, grants, funds, etc. should be placed in a separate section before the reference list, in smaller print than the main text (e.g., 10-point ). The names of funding organisations should be written in full.

### **Book reviews**

Book reviews should provide full details of the book(s) (including ISBN number) being reviewed at the head, e.g.:

Joseph J. Fischel: *Screw Consent: Towards a Better Politics of Sexual Justice*.  
Oakland, University of California Press, 2019, ISBN: 9780520295414.

In-text references to the text under review can be limited to page numbers.

### **Notes and References**

In general, references to books, articles etc., are made in the text as illustrated below. There should therefore be minimal need for footnotes and please avoid substantive footnotes where possible.

The purpose of footnotes should be to:

- **provide citations** of cases, legislation, other primary legal materials, other primary sources such as personal communications, letters, archived documents, etc., websites (as opposed to documents published online) and other unpublished works;
- **elaborate** on the text; or
- **refer** to further reading.

Footnotes should be double-spaced, but in a smaller font than the text (e.g., 10-point Times Roman).

Please do not use endnotes.

References, in the text or footnotes, should follow the citation style outlined below. A full list of references should be provided at the end of the manuscript.

**Cross-references** (where necessary): *Supra* n 5 at 33.

### Referencing style

References in the text or footnotes should be identified by means of the author's name and year of publication, followed by page number(s) where appropriate, e.g., for direct quotations, in parentheses. Use 'np' for when quoting without a page number. When there are two authors, both authors' names are listed. When there are more than two authors, only the first author's name should be mentioned, followed by 'et al.'. In the event that an author cited has had two or more works published during the same year, the reference, both in the text and in the final bibliography, should be identified by a lower case letter – 'a' and 'b' and so on - after the date to distinguish the works. When there are multiple sources, **the references should be listed in chronological (not alphabetical) order.**

Examples:

(MacKinnon 1987, 204)

(Davies and True 2018, np)

See further MacKinnon (1987, 204-5)

(MacKinnon 1987; Kerber et al. 1987)

(Anthony and Witt 1993, 687-88)

(Graycar 1994a; 1994b)

(Huneus 2000; Angell et al. 2001)

### List of References

The Chicago reference style (author-date) system is used as house style. The presentation of references differs from other standard reference styles in that given names of the authors are not abbreviated. The list of references should only include works that are cited in the text and that have been published or accepted for publication. Unpublished works such as websites, conference papers, and archive material should only be mentioned in the text. Interviewee details should only be mentioned in the text or footnotes.

**There is no need for a separate list of cases and/or legislation.**

References should be listed in alphabetical order by last name of first author or by organisation name. Please use title case for all titles.

#### *Books*

Rose, Gillian. 1993. *Feminism and Geography*. Cambridge: Polity Press.

Graycar, Regina, and Jenny Morgan. 1990. *The Hidden Gender of Law*. Sydney: Federation Press.

#### *Edited Books*

Morris, Anne, and Thérèse O'Donnell, eds. 1999. *Feminist Perspectives on Employment Law*. London: Cavendish.

#### *Book Chapters*

Morris, Anne. 1999. Workers First, Women Second? Trade Unions and the Equality Agenda. In *Feminist Perspectives on Employment Law*, ed. Anne Morris and Thérèse O'Donnell, 183-202. London: Cavendish.

#### *Journal Articles*

Grbich, Judith E. 1997. Taxation Narratives of Economic Gain: Reading Bodies Transgressively. *Feminist Legal Studies* 5: 131-168.

#### *Newspaper Articles*

Dyer, Clare. 2007. Reforms Aim to Dispel Rape Myths and Increase Convictions. *The Guardian*, 29 November.

#### *Online Documents*

Authored documents:

Álvarez, Pilar. 2021. Spain's Equality Ministry Drafts Law that Would let Citizens Change Official Gender Without Medical Check. *El País*, 3 February. <https://english.elpais.com/society/2021-02-03/spains-equality-ministry-drafts-law-that-would-let-citizens-change-official-gender-without-medical-checks.html>. Accessed 3 February 2021.

Unauthored documents:

Awaaz – South Asia Watch. 2006. The Islamic Right: Key Tendencies. [http://www.awaazsaw.org/awaaz\\_pia4.pdf](http://www.awaazsaw.org/awaaz_pia4.pdf). Accessed 15 November 2007.

#### *Social media*

@CityofAngelle. 2014. Racism and sexism combine to dehumanize and de-womanize black women in America. The point of #YouOKSis is to show up for them. *Twitter*, 10 July. [https://twitter.com/search?l=&q=%23YouOKSis since%3A2014-07-10 until%3A2014-07-11&src=typd&lang=en-gb](https://twitter.com/search?l=&q=%23YouOKSis%20since%3A2014-07-10%20until%3A2014-07-11&src=typd&lang=en-gb). Accessed 15 July 2019.

#### *Theses or Dissertations*

Godden, Nicola. 2013. Seeking Justice for Rape Victim-survivors: Unconventional Responses to Rape. PhD thesis, Durham University.

For further guidance see the Chicago-Style Citation Quick guide at [http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools\\_citationguide.html](http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html)

#### Legal citations

Use conventions for citation of law reports common to your legal tradition. Put the name of the case in italics, e.g., *Webb v EMO Cargo Ltd* (No 2) [1995] 4 All ER 577.

#### Statutes:

Theft Act 1968, s 5(3) or  
s 5(3) of the Theft Act 1968

#### **Pinpoint referencing:**

Page: no abbreviation (e.g., *R v Morgentaler*, [1988] 1 SCR 30 **at 31**).

Paragraph: “**para**” (e.g., *Victoria (City) v. Smith*, 2020 BCSC 1173 **at para 18**).

Section: “**s**” (e.g., *Criminal Code*, 1985 RSC, c C-46 **s 293**).

Article (e.g., a section of a statute): “**art**” (e.g., *Ibid*, **art 1457**).

Footnote: “**n**” (e.g., *Xiao v. Fan*, 2020 BCSC 69 **at para 29, n 1**).

## **PROOFS**

Proofs will be sent to the corresponding author by email. Proof corrections should be returned online, using the corrections grids supplied, within one week of receipt.

## **OFFPRINTS**

Twenty-five offprints of each article will be provided free of charge. Additional offprints can be ordered by means of an offprint order form supplied with the proofs.

## **PAGE CHARGES AND COLOUR FIGURES**

No page charges are levied on authors or their institutions except for colour pages. The author will be contacted regarding costs and invoicing if the manuscript includes colour figures.

## **COPYRIGHT**

Authors will be asked to transfer copyright of articles to the Publisher. A copyright transfer form will be provided with the proofs of the article, which must be signed and returned to the Publisher. This will ensure the widest possible dissemination of information under copyright laws.

## **PERMISSIONS**

It is the responsibility of the author to obtain written permission for a quotation from unpublished material, or for all quotations in excess of 250 words in one extract or 500 words in total from any work still in copyright, and for the reprinting of figures, tables or poems from unpublished or copyrighted material.

## **OPEN ACCESS POLICY**

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There is more information about Springer's open access policy on their website here:

<http://www.springer.com/open+access/authors+rights?SGWID=0-176704-0-0-0>

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Additional information can be obtained from:

Feminist Legal Studies <http://www.springer.com/journal/10691>



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