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## A Guide to Acquisitions

**Welcome** to the State University of New York Press!

SUNY Press publishes in a number of different areas in the humanities and social sciences—please see pages 4–6 for a list of our areas of scholarly focus. We also publish, through our Excelsior Editions imprint, books of scholarly and general interest on the history, culture, society, and environment of New York and its surrounding states, as well as works of general interest related to our scholarly areas.

If you are a prospective author with a book project relevant to one of our current areas of acquisitions, please follow the guidelines below to submit your work.

## Submitting a Book Proposal

For your initial submission, please send a proposal rather than the complete manuscript. Proposals should include the following:

- Cover letter
- Statement of the purpose, scope, and market for your project
- Brief abstract or description of the book (150–200 words)
- Table of contents
- Chapter-by-chapter outline
- Description of any illustrations (figures, tables, photographs, etc.)
- Timeline for completion
- List of competing titles, if any, or discussion of relevant competing/complementary literature
- Indicate any chapters that are previously published, if any
- Your current curriculum vitae or résumé with complete contact information
- If the work is an edited volume, a list of contributors and their affiliations

Please send an introduction and/or other sample chapter if one is ready and available. *Please do not send a full-length manuscript* until invited to do so by an acquisitions editor.

Please send your materials to **one** of the editors listed on page 6. If you are unsure which editor is appropriate, please send your submission to James Peltz, Co-Director. Electronic submissions are preferred (attachments should be Word or PDF documents), but if you are sending your materials by regular mail, please use the mailing address on the front cover of this guide; submissions sent by UPS or FedEx should be sent to:

SUNY Press  
Attn: [Editor's name]  
10 North Pearl St., 4th Floor  
Albany, NY 12207 USA

After receiving your materials, the acquisitions editor will review them and decide whether the project is a good fit for our list. We make every effort to review proposals in a timely manner, but because we receive hundreds of book proposals every year, it can take several months for us to assess your initial submission.

## Simultaneous Submission Policy

SUNY Press accepts simultaneous submissions of proposals, but once you have been invited by an editor to submit your full manuscript, we do ask for exclusive review. SUNY Press does not review full manuscripts currently under consideration by another publisher.

## Policy on Dissertations

SUNY Press does not publish unrevised dissertations. We do, however, consider book proposals that have their origins in dissertation research and are suitably revised. We recommend *The Thesis and the Book: A Guide for First-Time Academic Authors, 2nd edition*, edited by Eleanor Harman et al.; *From Dissertation to Book* by William Germano; and *Revising Your Dissertation: Advice from Leading Editors, 2nd edition*, edited by Beth Luey.

## Submitting Your Manuscript

Once your SUNY Press editor has invited you to submit a complete manuscript, please send her/him one electronic copy of the manuscript. The document should be double-spaced and submitted as one file, saved in either Word or PDF format. If submitting an edited volume, please have each contributor use the same font/citation style. Please do not send original materials (such as artwork or photographs).

## Peer Review

All scholarly books published by SUNY Press are subject to blind peer review by at least two outside readers. As an aid in helping us to secure external readers, please include with your manuscript the names and institutional affiliations of three or four individuals you believe are qualified to review your manuscript. We will consider your suggestions as we decide whom to query. Please do not suggest an individual if s/he has a potential conflict of interest; eg:

- Is located on your campus, even if in a different department
- Coauthored or coedited another book with you
- Was on your dissertation committee
- Has communicated in depth with you about this specific manuscript
- Is a close personal friend
- Is a mentor/mentee

Also, if you strongly believe a particular individual would not evaluate your manuscript in an objective and impartial manner, you should inform your editor. Do not contact any potential readers yourself, as this compromises the anonymity of the review process. Unless the readers specifically waive their anonymity, their identity will not be revealed to you.

The peer review process can take anywhere from two to four months, depending on, among other things, the nature and length of the project and the availability of reviewers. In some cases, it can take longer, particularly in fields where the pool of available readers is small. If you have a question about the status of your manuscript, please contact your editor.

## Acceptance for Publication

Once your peers have submitted their reports, the editors will evaluate them carefully. Under ordinary circumstances, these are the most common results of the review process:

- You will be asked for a brief written response to the readers' concerns and suggestions (if any) and to outline your final revision plans.
- You will be invited to revise and resubmit the manuscript for another round of peer review.
- The Press will decline to publish the manuscript.

If your response to the readers' reports is deemed satisfactory by the acquiring editor, your manuscript will be presented to the SUNY Press editorial board for final consideration. The editorial board consists of faculty members drawn from campuses across the State University of New York system. The mission of the editorial board is to make a final recommendation that the project be accepted for publication or rejected. The editorial board meets on a regular basis, usually three times per year. Your written response to the reviews will be shared with the editorial board, along with the manuscript, the original reports, your CV, and a summary of the project prepared by your editor. You will be notified promptly and in writing of the decision reached at the editorial board meeting.

## Preparing Your Final Manuscript

Please refer to the Production Guide for instructions on preparing your final manuscript for publication.

## Areas of Scholarly Focus

SUNY Press publishes in a number of diverse academic areas. The Press's current areas of focus include:

African American Studies  
 Asian Studies  
 Education  
 Environmental Studies  
 Film Studies  
 Hispanic and Latin American Studies  
 Indigenous Studies  
 Italian American Studies  
 Jewish Studies  
 New York/Regional  
 Nineteenth-Century Studies  
 Philosophy  
 Political Science  
 Queer Studies  
 Religious Studies  
 Transpersonal Psychology  
 Women's and Gender Studies

### African American Studies

Subjects and topics of interest include diasporic issues, civil rights, black churches, music, urban issues, families, blackness, racialization, film, literature, visual culture, black power movement, incarceration and prisons, slavery and its legacies, citizenship and nationalism, black youth, segregation, Afrocentrism, and Pan Africanism.

### Asian Studies

SUNY Press is particularly well known for books on Asian philosophy and religion, with specific strengths in Chinese philosophy, religion, literature, and culture; Indian religions; Buddhism; and comparative East-West philosophy. Additional areas of strength include work on Japan and Korea.

While much of SUNY Press's Asian studies list highlights humanities scholarship, important work in the social sciences is a hallmark of the list as well.

### Education

SUNY Press has published on a wide range of topics in education. Current areas of interest include higher education and critical university studies, sociology of education, social studies and social justice pedagogy, international and comparative education, multilingual and multicultural education, urban and rural education, philosophy of education, arts education, and literacy studies.

### Environmental Studies

SUNY Press seeks works that systematically study human interaction with the environment, including the natural environment, built environments, and the sets of relationships between them. SUNY Press has published on these issues in relation to public policy, politics, law, economics, philosophy, sociology, planning, pollution control, natural resources, and the interactions of human beings and nature.

### Film Studies

SUNY Press has published a variety of books on the history, production, cultural reception, and social meaning of film. Current topics of interest include specific films, filmmakers, genres, historical eras of film production, and production processes, as well as multicultural, ethnographic, technical, and theoretical aspects of cinema.

### Hispanic and Latin American Studies

We seek books that explore the literature, visual arts, culture, philosophy, politics, and intellectual history of Spain and Latin America from

a variety of theoretical and disciplinary perspectives in the humanities and social sciences. We welcome projects that intersect with Africana and diaspora studies, Caribbean studies, gender studies, Latinx studies, queer studies, and other related fields.

## Indigenous Studies

**S**UNY Press publishes works that draw upon a variety of scholarly disciplines—including history, anthropology, philosophy, literary criticism, political science, economics, cultural criticism—to illuminate the range and complexity of the experiences of indigenous peoples in the past, present, and into the future.

## Italian American Studies

**I**n addition to scholarly studies in literature, film, sociology, anthropology, and history, we are interested in books for more general readers that can help extend the understanding of this important ethnic group and its role in the history and culture of the United States.

## Jewish Studies

**S**UNY Press has a long-standing and wide-ranging list in Jewish studies. We publish scholarly works on Jewish history, culture, religion, philosophy, and literature, with a particular focus on the modern and contemporary periods. We also publish in Israel studies and Holocaust studies.

## New York/Regional

**T**hrough its Excelsior Editions imprint, SUNY Press publishes general and scholarly books of history, geography, natural history, photography, architecture, cooking, wine, and travel/recreation, as well as works of fiction, poetry, and creative nonfiction. Our aim is to showcase the diversity and abiding energy of the peoples, histories, and natural beauty of New York State.

## Nineteenth-Century Studies

**O**ne of the most exciting trends in scholarship on the nineteenth century is the tendency to redraw the boundaries of its chronological, national, and disciplinary limits. SUNY Press publishes books that extend the “Long Nineteenth Century” back in time to the mid-seventeen hundreds and forward through the *fin de siècle* and its connections to twentieth-century modernism. We welcome interdisciplinary projects that intersect a variety of fields, including literature, history, anthropology, history of medicine, urban studies, musicology, architecture, gender studies, art, science and technology studies, postcolonial studies, and subaltern studies.

## Philosophy

**S**UNY Press publishes widely in philosophy and the history of philosophy, including ancient philosophy, German Idealism, phenomenology, existentialism, hermeneutics, philosophy of religion, Asian and comparative philosophy, contemporary French and Italian philosophy, process philosophy, pragmatism, environmental philosophy, feminist philosophy and gender theory, philosophy and race, and indigenous philosophies.

## Political Science

**S**UNY Press has published on a wide range of topics in this field, dealing with the study of governments, public policies, systems, and political behavior. We are particularly interested in the following subfields: political theory, political philosophy, political ideology, political economy, policy studies and analysis, comparative politics, international relations, and related fields such as public administration. Our books on political science use both humanistic and scientific perspectives and tools and a variety of methodological approaches to examine the process, systems, and political dynamics of all countries and regions of the world.

## Queer Studies

SUNY Press invites books at the intersection of queer studies with fields such as history, politics, law, philosophy, psychoanalysis, literature, education, and religion. We have published works in the humanities and social sciences on LGBTQIA identities, activism, and archives, and the relationship of sexuality to gender, race, ethnicity, class, region, and ability. We also seek books that develop queer theoretical frameworks to approach various artistic, cultural, and social forms and phenomena.

## Religious Studies

SUNY Press has a very broad list in religious studies. Perhaps best known for the list on Asian religions, SUNY Press has also had a long-standing list on Islam as well as lists on Jewish religion and Christianity. SUNY Press is also recognized for books on women and religion, sexuality and religion, and the environment and religion.

## Transpersonal Psychology

Topics of interest include spiritual self-development, peak experiences, mystical experiences, systemic trance, and other sublime and/or unusually expanded experiences of living.

## Women's and Gender Studies

SUNY Press has a number of series that offer feminist perspectives in many of our historically important disciplinary areas of acquisitions, including philosophy, religion, and literary criticism. In recent years, the list has deepened its offerings in cultural studies and other interdisciplinary fields. We have a strong focus on texts that deal with social justice and welcome submissions that bridge theory and practice, broadly conceived, and which conceptualize gender in relation to other axes of identity, power, and struggle.

## Acquisitions Department

### James Peltz

Co-Director

*Excelsior Editions*

james.peltz@sunypress.edu

### Christopher Ahn

Senior Acquisitions Editor

*Asian Studies, Religious Studies*

christopher.ahn@sunypress.edu

### Michael Rinella, PhD

Senior Acquisitions Editor

*African American Politics and Sociology,*

*Environmental Studies, Political Science*

michael.rinella@sunypress.edu

### Rebecca Colesworthy, PhD

Acquisitions Editor

*Education, Latin American and Iberian Studies,*

*Latinx Studies, Literature, Queer Studies,*

*Women's and Gender Studies*

rebecca.colesworthy@sunypress.edu

### Andrew Kenyon

Acquisitions Editor

*Philosophy*

andrew.kenyon@sunypress.edu

### Amanda Lanne-Camilli

Acquisitions Editor

*Indigenous Studies, Italian American Studies,*

*New York/Regional, Nineteenth-Century Studies*

amanda.lanne-camilli@sunypress.edu

### Rafael Chaiken

Assistant Acquisitions Editor

*Film Studies, Jewish Studies*

rafael.chaiken@sunypress.edu