

AUTHOR INSTRUCTIONS

Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Criminology and Criminal Justice

CONTRACT

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SCOPE, AUDIENCE, AND STYLE

Articles should provide a thorough narrative overview of the topic and should be approximately 8,000 to 10,000 words, though length is flexible. They should be written objectively, avoiding partisanship and polemic. Please also avoid the first person to the extent possible, and do not reference yourself directly (e.g., "I believe..."). Where debate exists in the field, all points of view should be presented fairly. Use clear, formal language, avoiding jargon.

FORMAT

When preparing to submit your article, please make sure your manuscript is formatted according to the following guidelines:

- Please submit your article as a Word document, using the font Times New Roman, size 12, if possible.
- Provide your full name and affiliation, as they should appear in the published article, beneath the title.
- Use headings to organize the main essay. Use title case for headings, and make level-one headings **bold** (e.g., **Summary, Essay main topic headings**), level-two headings **bold and italic**, and level-three headings *roman and italic*. We do not allow more than three heading levels.

ARTICLE STRUCTURE

We ask that your article adhere to the outline below. If you have any questions as you write your article, please feel free to contact [Zackery Cuevas](#) (OUP Development Editor) for clarification.

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Because the Oxford Research Encyclopedia (ORE) of Criminology and Criminal Justice is a digital resource, the choice of title for your article has important implications for discoverability. Good titles are specific and clear without being metaphorical or obscure. Titles that would be excellent for books or journal articles would have to be re-worked for the ORE. Please avoid the use of colons in your title. Examples:

Good for a Book	Better for ORE
<i>A Capacity to Punish: The Ecology of Crime and Punishment</i>	<i>The Ecology of Crime and Punishment</i>
<i>The Many Colors of Crime: Inequalities of Race, Ethnicity, and Crime in America</i>	<i>Race, Ethnicity, and Crime in America</i>

Summary (250–500 words)

The Summary should be a brief *synopsis* of the topic, no longer than 1–2 paragraphs. It should define the topic and stand on its own as a useful piece of content without reference to the larger article. Please note that we do not want an abstract in the traditional sense (“In this article, I will argue that . . .”), but rather a short summary containing the essential overview a reader might read before engaging the entire essay. Do not include citations or references in your summary. For examples, please see published summaries for [ORE of Religion](#) articles, including [Early Christian Worship](#) and [Objects and Ancient Religions](#).

We ask that you submit this summary in advance of the full article, preferably within 2 months of accepting the invitation to write. Please submit your summary via email to criminology.ore@oup.com as soon as it is complete, understanding that the full article will take longer to complete. We hope that the Summary will help guide you as you write your essay, and also give our readers a brief overview of your topic. The Summary will publish and become freely available on the site in advance of publication of the full article, and will increase discoverability of your topic. If you wish, you may revise or entirely re-write this summary when submitting your full article.

Keywords (5–10 words)

Please provide 5–10 keywords that can be used for describing the content of the article; this will ensure your article is searchable and discoverable online. Keywords are equivalent to terms in an index in a printed work.

Essay (4,000–10,000 words or more)

The essay will form the majority of your contribution: it should provide a thorough narrative overview of the topic but should not focus on literature review, as this will be covered in a separate section (see below). Please divide your discussion into subheadings roughly every 1,000–1,500 words. Assume that most of your readers will be graduate students, though we anticipate a broad readership, including faculty and teachers who need to brush up on topics outside of their area of expertise as well as undergraduate students.

Review of the Literature and Primary Sources (500–1,000 words)

Please discuss briefly the main threads of scholarship on your topic, including past approaches to the subject as well as research questions that remain or that are currently being pursued. While this cannot serve as an exhaustive review of the literature or historiography, it should discuss, in broad strokes, how scholarship on your topic has developed. Please also discuss any primary sources or collections of primary sources that are relevant to your topic. Do not aim for exhaustiveness, but consider where you might direct a beginning student for important primary source collections. Please feel free to include either the review of the literature, the primary sources, or both as part of your main essay, or in a separate section or sections.

Further Reading (250–700 words)

Please provide around 10, and no more than 25, major books and articles on the subject to which you would direct a scholar or advanced student who wanted to read more deeply on this topic. This can be a list of citations, a list of annotated citations, or can follow a more narrative format. These sources may but need not be cited in the text.

Links to Digital Materials (optional)

Please feel encouraged to include links to digital museum exhibits, archives, collections, etc. that are accessible online. These links should be scholarly in nature and openly available. If desired, you may also link out to online sources within the article itself using text hyperlinks.

References

Each source cited should be indicated in the text using author last name and publication year inside parentheses, according to *The APA Manual of Style*, 6th edition (e.g., “(Smith, 2009)”).

At the end of the article, provide a full list of references for each source cited in these in-text citations. You may also include sources cited in your article as part of the “Further Reading” section.

Notes (optional)

You may include endnotes *sparingly* to provide brief commentary concerning aspects of your article that otherwise might not fit within the text. Avoid lengthy, discursive commentary or long, journal-style notes.

STYLE PREFERENCES

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