



Considering Publication

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Why publish?

- Something you want to share/work out
- Have a unique perspective
- Have unique information
- Want to be in conversation with others
- Need publications for your job/career
- Want to advance the conservation field both within the conservation community and beyond

What writing do you have to share?

- Original research?
 - Technical
 - Treatment
 - Historical
 - Archival
- Book review
- Summary of your work or others'?
- Informal?

Who do you want to talk to?

- Conservation practitioners
- Scholars/Researchers
 - Conservation specialists
 - Other specialized audience, for ex., Roman archaeologists, Egyptologists, etc.
- General audience with specialized interest, for ex. archaeology enthusiasts
- Anyone

What is the best publication for your work?

- Is “Peer-review” important?
- Is a physical publication important (vs. an online only publication)?
- What kind of circulation do you want?
 - Book, journal, postprint, edited volume, blog, etc.
- How formal is this work? How complete is it?
- How soon do you want this information published?

Publishing in journals

- What kind of journals publish the types of things you are working on, or would be interested in seeing it?
- Where are the interesting conversations about the materials/questions you are working on?
- Where to find out about journals?
 - Google/Google scholar search, Jstor, Academia.edu, ResearchGate, etc.
 - Are you already reading articles from journals that help you contextualize your own research?
 - Stroll through local academic library and look at journals
 - Ask colleagues

Once you've found journals of interest...

- Look at the last 5-10 years worth of articles and see what the conversations/arguments tend to be about.
- Consider perhaps 3 venues for possible publication—try for the highest quality journal to submit to first
- Take a close look at the submission guidelines for the journal for requirements and formatting. Most journals require original research that is not published elsewhere.
- If you aren't sure if the journal would be interested in your research, write to the editor with an “abstract” of your article

Writing

- This process is a slog. No getting around it.
- Write with the specific journal in mind. What are the questions the journal is interested in? Is there a specific style to writing?
- Find a thoughtful (and select) group of people to read over drafts and give advice. You want people who understand the stakes of the journal(s) you are writing for. Ask both senior and peer colleagues if possible.
- Once you submit it to the journal, your paper can take up to a few months to be reviewed by outside reviewers.
 - May get accepted; asked to revise and resubmit; rejected
 - Take reviewers' responses seriously but also be able to argue your point if they have missed it
 - If you need to revise, journal will give you a deadline for this

Preparing for publication

- Make sure you have permission to use images, photographs, data. Find out what acknowledgments are expected, i.e., “photograph courtesy of...”
- Is the primary research your own or did someone else contribute significantly to the research and writing?
- Have you acknowledged all the people who read your drafts or offered advice?
- Do you plan to publish more on this same topic? You can, but each publication must offer something different about the subject of study. May be different for blogs, popular press, etc. When in doubt, check with the editor.
- Some journals charge for printing color images. Some research institutions will help you pay those costs (subvention), or you have to use grant funding, etc. to offset these costs.

Venues for Publication

- It is scary to publish outside conservation journals, but very important—we want to be involved in scholarly and professional discussions beyond the conservation world
 - Baby steps—publish with a co-author who is already in that field, i.e., joint publication with an art historian in an art history journal
 - Look for journals that are specifically interested in interdisciplinary projects (many are). How can our conservation research ask/answer bigger questions?
 - Read up on research being done in that area/that journal so that you can join in the conversation
 - We have really unique information to share, but it has to be contextualized

Some venues (A very personal list)

- JAIC
- Studies in Conservation
- Journal of Material Culture
- American Journal of Archaeology
- Journal of Archaeological Science
- Museum Anthropology
- International Journal of Cultural Property
- British Museum Technical Research Bulletin
- Curator
- Journal of Conservation and Museum Studies
- Journal of Cultural Heritage
- Antiquity
- Archaeometry
- Journal of Museum Ethnography
- Museum History Journal
- <http://www.maneyonline.com/page/archaeo>
- <http://online.sagepub.com/browse/by/discipline>
- <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/subject/code/000083>
- <http://museumstudies.si.edu/Header3.html>