

BOOK REVIEW POLICY AND FORMAT FOR THE *GEOGRAPHICAL REVIEW*

The *Geographical Review* publishes reviews of significant books relevant to geographers. Book reviews are written on invitation from the editorial office, although the editors do welcome suggestions, particularly those pertaining to geographically significant works written by scholars in other disciplines. If for any reason you as a reviewer think a book does not merit a review, please discuss the matter with the editors before preparing a manuscript. We usually request that the review be completed within two months of receipt of the book. If this timing does not work in your schedule, please negotiate a mutually agreeable deadline with the editors.

Content of the Review

We are looking for a review that summarizes what is important in the book and that critiques its substance. The reviewer should state the goal of the author and should assess the extent to which that aim is achieved. Please do not merely report the content of the book - the reviewer should rather engage with the material. Chapter-by-chapter summations are to be avoided, and in the case of edited collections, avoid trying to describe every contribution. Concentrate, instead, on those essays that you as reviewer regard as the most significant within the larger context of the volume. Ultimately, the GR is interested in lively scholarly writing that will appeal to a broad cross-section of geographers, other scholars, and members of the educated public. As a rule readers are interested in at least two things: knowing whether the book is worth reading, and understanding how a volume contributes to the progress, conception, and stature of geography or related disciplines. Keep in mind that the best reviews are something of an art form, and entirely worth reading on their own. Please feel free to write with a bit of air.

The use of bibliographic data should be minimal. The format is to include other references, when absolutely necessary, in parentheses within the text. Do provide complete bibliographic details of any reference for our information, so that we may include relevant publication data as appropriate. When quoting from the book you are reviewing, always provide the page numbers for the quotes. Reviews should generally be between 800 and 1,200 words, although particularly important works might merit longer essays. If there are any questions about the appropriate length, please consult the editors.

Format

The review should begin with a heading containing the bibliographic data. This heading should be organized as follows:

TITLE [all in caps]: subtitle [Upper and lower case]. By [Author's Name]. ??? pp.; maps, diags., ill., notes, bibliog., index [include these as appropriate]. Place

of Publication: Name of Press, Date. \$00.00 (cloth), isbn-; . \$00.00(paper), isbn-.

GARDENS OF NEW SPAIN: How Mediterranean Plants and Foods Changed America. By William W. Dunmire. xviii and 375 pp.; maps, ills., notes, bibliog., index. Austin: University of Texas Press, 2004. \$65.00 (cloth), ISBN 029270271X; \$24.95 (paper); ISBN 0292705646.

The first paragraph of the review should not be indented, but indent the first line of all succeeding paragraphs with a single default tab. Use 12-point type and double space the text throughout the review. At the end of the review, place two hyphens followed by your name and institutional affiliation.

Responsibility for accuracy rests with you, the reviewer. We therefore urge you to check the final draft for accuracy of content, grammar, and spelling, along with the accuracy of cited passages and their page numbers, as well as any additional bibliographic data. Please remember that all contributions to *The Geographical Review* should be written in a style that is accessible to a wide, and international, readership.

You may transmit your review as a Word file attachment to an email or on a CD (in Word).

If you have additional questions about format or content issues related to your book review, please contact the book review editor, preferably by e-mail: Kent Mathewson, Department of Geography and Anthropology, Louisiana State University, 227 Howe-Russell, Baton Rouge, LA 70803 (e-mail greditor@lsu.edu; phone 225-578-6073; fax 225-578-4420)