



Instructions for Authors

Scope

Vetus Testamentum (VT) is a leading journal covering all aspects of Old Testament study. It includes articles on history, literature, religion and theology, text, versions, language, and the bearing on the Old Testament of archaeology and the study of the Ancient Near East.

Ethical and Legal Conditions

The publication of a manuscript in a peer-reviewed work is expected to follow standards of ethical behavior for all parties involved in the act of publishing: authors, editors, and reviewers. Authors, editors, and reviewers should thoroughly acquaint themselves with Brill's publication ethics, which may be downloaded here: brill.com/page/ethics/publication-ethics-cope-compliance.

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Prior to submission, authors are encouraged to read the "**Instructions for Authors**" (which you find online at the EM webpage). When submitting via the website, you will be guided stepwise through the creation and uploading of the various files.

Please note, that you must submit your article in **anonymized form**, with a separate title page, and that you need an abstract and keywords (see below).

A **revised document** is uploaded the same way as the initial submission. Here, anonymization is unnecessary: please reuse your initial title page file, but copy paste all the information contained there into the beginning of the revised manuscript file.

The system automatically generates an electronic (PDF) proof, which is then used for reviewing purposes. All correspondence, including the editor's request for revision and final decision, is sent by e-mail.

Books for review should be sent to:

Prof. Dr. Joachim Schaper

University of Aberdeen, School of Divinity, History and Philosophy

King's College, Aberdeen, AB24 3UB, UK, j.schaper@abdn.ac.uk



Instructions for Authors

Manuscripts for the series *Supplements to Vetus Testamentum* should be sent to:

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For any questions or problems relating to your manuscript please contact Editor-in-Chief, Annette Schellenberg, at annette.schellenberg@univie.ac.at. For eventual questions about Editorial Manager, authors can also contact the Brill EM Support Department at: em@brill.com.

Submission Requirements

Scholarship

VT only sends out articles to the peer review process that are of a high scholarly quality. Among others, this includes that article engage with relevant scholarship in the languages of the journal (German, French, and English). Authors may, of course, add citations to additional languages relevant to the subject of the manuscript.

Language

Contributions submitted may be written in English, French, or German. Spelling in the language used should be consistent throughout.

Submissions in English that are composed by non-native speakers must be proofread by a competent user of the English language before they are submitted for peer review.

Manuscript Length

In order to reduce delays in publication, contributors are asked to write as concisely as possible. Priority will be given to **Short Notes (2000–3000 words)** and to **articles of fewer than 6000 words**; only a small number of longer articles will be published each year. Contributors are also asked to keep footnotes as brief as possible and to exclude any that are unnecessary.

Non-Roman Script and Transliteration

For Hebrew and Greek, contributors are asked to use a Unicode font. *VT* prefers **SBL Hebrew** and **SBL Greek** (available through sbl-site.org/educational/biblicalfonts.aspx).

For Aramaic, contributors are asked to use the Estrangelo Talada font.

For other languages in non-Roman script, contributors may either use the characters in a Unicode-friendly font like the Brill, or use transliteration. For more information on the various fonts and formats to be used, please go to Brill's website at: brill.com/page/fonts/fonts-scripts-and-unicode.



Manuscript Structure and Formatting

Although manuscripts can be submitted in any citation and formatting style, if they are accepted for publication, they will need to be adjusted to the rules spelled out below.

Title Page

In addition to the title of the contribution, the title page must include personal information about the author(s). Please follow these examples:

Peter Smith

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Smith@Leiden.univ.nl

Peter Smith

Department of Slavic Studies, Faculty of History, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA

Smith@cornell.edu

Abstract and Keywords

Contributions in all languages should include an abstract and keywords in English. An abstract should not be longer than 150 words in the case of an article, or 30 words in the case of a Short Note. Keywords should consist of 2–6 words or short phrases.

Headings

All headings should be flush left. The numbering of headings is recommended, but not mandatory.

1 **First Level Heading**

1.1 **Second Level Heading**

1.1.1 **Third Level Heading**

Footnotes

Please use footnotes (no endnotes). Footnote enumeration should follow the citation or term to which it refers. Footnotes always follow punctuation (e.g., comma or period).

References: General Rules on Citation and Formatting

With regard to citation and formatting, *VT* follows the *SBL Handbook of Style*, with a few exceptions. The most important rules are spelled out below. For more details, please consult the *SBL Handbook of Style* (2nd edition) or the abbreviated student version, which is available online (sbl-site.org/assets/pdfs/pubs/SBLHSupp2015-02.pdf).



Instructions for Authors

Articles in German and French should follow these rules as closely as possible. However, some adjustments to the standards in these languages are permitted (for the most important examples, see below on references to scripture; em-dashes; and quotation marks).

- All articles must conclude with a bibliography.
- Unlike the *SBL Handbook of Style*, VT requires that short forms be used on first citation in a footnote.
- When noting cities of publication and publishers, provide the name of only one city and one publisher for an individual source. E.g., Oxford (*not* Oxford and New York).
- Page numbers are given without a “p.” or “pp.”
- Avoid using f. and ff. for “following” pages; give actual page ranges.
- Avoid using “ibid.,” “op. cit.,” and “idem”; they are permitted only within the same footnote.
- In the footnotes, page numbers of articles should only be given if the reference is only to a section of the article. If the reference is to the entire article, no page numbers should be given.
- Unlike the *SBL Handbook of Style*, VT prefers that number ranges (not only for years but also for pages) not be abbreviated. When citing page numbers, write out the complete range. E.g., 120–125 (not 120–25), 502–508 (not 502–8), and 306–323 (not 306–23).
- First names may be abbreviated if they are unknown. In that case, a space should separate initials if there is more than one.

References to Secondary Literature

Books, Single Author

Bibliography

Kingsmill, Edmée. *The Song of Songs and the Eros of God: A Study in Biblical Intertextuality*. Oxford Theological Monographs. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009.

Peetz, Melanie. *Emotionen im Hohelied: Eine literaturwissenschaftliche Analyse hebräischer Liebeslyrik unter Berücksichtigung geistlich-allegorischer Auslegungsversuche*. HBS 81. Freiburg: Herder, 2015.

Alan H. Gardiner. *Egyptian Grammar*. 3rd ed. London: Oxford University Press, 1957.

Footnotes

¹⁹ See Kingsmill, *Song of Songs*, 30–39.

²⁰ Peetz, *Emotionen*, 19 n. 23. (no comma before “n.”)

Books, Two Authors

Bibliography

King, Philip J., and Lawrence E. Stager. *Life in Biblical Israel*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2001.

Footnotes

²¹ See King and Stager, *Life*, 23.



Instructions for Authors

Books, Three or More Authors

Bibliography

Scott, Bernard Brandon, Margaret Dean, Kristen Sparks, and France LaZar. *Reading New Testament Greek*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1993.

Footnotes

²² See Scott et al., *Reading New Testament Greek*, 42–53.

Translated Volumes

Bibliography

Barbiero, Gianni. *Song of Songs: A Close Reading*. Translated by M. Tait. VTSup 144. Leiden: Brill, 2011.

Footnotes

²³ See Barbiero, *Song of Songs*, 131–136.

Books, Edited

Bibliography

Tigay, Jeffrey H., ed. *Empirical Models for Biblical Criticism*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1985.

Footnotes

²⁴ See Tigay, *Empirical Models*, 38 n. 51.

Multivolume Works

Bibliography

Harnack, Adolf. *History of Dogma*. Translated by Neil Buchanan. 7 vols. Boston: Little Brown, 1896–1905.
Winter, Bruce W., and Andrew D. Clarke, eds. *The Book of Acts in Its Ancient Literary Setting*. Vol. 1 of *The Book of Acts in Its First Century Setting*. Edited by Bruce W. Winter. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993.

Footnotes

²⁵ See Harnack, *History of Dogma*, 2:126.

²⁶ See Winter and Clarke, *Book of Acts*, 25.

Articles in Edited Books

Bibliography

Brenner, Athalya. “An Afterword.” Pages 279–280 in *A Feminist Companion to the Song of Songs*. Edited by Athalya Brenner. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic, 1993.

Hecke, Pierre van. “A New Look at מַבֵּט.” Pages 569–579 in *A Pillar of Cloud to Guide: Text-Critical*,



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Redactional, and Linguistic Perspectives on the Old Testament in Honour of Marc Vervenne. Edited by Hans Ausloos and Bénédicte Lemmelijn. BETL 269. Leuven: Peeters, 2014.

Breuer, Yochanan. "Dissonance between Masoretic Accentuation and Vocalization in Verse Division of the Biblical Text." Pages 191–242 in vol. 1 of *Rabbi Mordechai Breuer Festschrift: Collected Papers in Jewish Studies*. Edited by Moshe Bar-Asher. Jerusalem: Academion, 1992.

David Peterson, "The Motif of Fulfilment and the Purpose of Luke-Acts." Pages 83–104 in *The Book of Acts in Its Ancient Literary Setting*. Edited by Bruce W. Winter and Andrew D. Clarke. Vol. 1 of *The Book of Acts in Its First Century Setting*. Edited by Bruce W. Winter. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993.

Footnotes

²⁷ See Brenner, "Afterword." (no page numbers if the reference is to the entire article)

²⁸ See Hecke, "New Look," 560–570.

Journal Articles (Consecutive Pagination)

Bibliography

Soulen, Richard N. "The Wašfs of the Song of Songs and Hermeneutic." *JBL* 86 (1967): 183–190.

Veenker, Ronald A. "Forbidden Fruit: Ancient Near Eastern Sexual Metaphors." *HUCA* 70 (1999): 57–73.
(no fascicle number for journals with consecutive pagination)

Footnotes

²⁹ See Soulen, "Wašfs." (no page numbers if the reference is to the entire article)

³⁰ See Veenker, "Forbidden Fruit," 60–62.

Journal Articles (Nonconsecutive Pagination)

Bibliography

Saldarini, Anthony J. "Babatha's Story." *BAR* 24.2 (1998): 28–33, 36–37, 72–74.

Footnotes

³¹ See Saldarini, "Babatha's Story," 28.

Articles in Encyclopedias or Dictionaries

Bibliography

Reventlow, H. Graf. "Gnade I: Altes Testament." *TRE* 13:459–464.

Schunck, Klaus-Dietrich. "גְּלַגִּלָּה *pālag*." *TDOT* 11:546–548.

Footnotes

³² See Reventlow, "Gnade," 460 n. 3.

³³ See Schunck, "גְּלַגִּלָּה," 546.



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Electronic Sources

If electronic sources are cited, the online access date (e.g., “accessed on July 8, 2020”) must be included with the full website address. Excessive citing of electronic sources is discouraged.

References to Scripture

Scriptural references should be given as follows: Gen 2–3; 2 Sam 14:5, 8; Isa 1:8; 5:1–7, 10; Jer 3:6; 16:2, 10; Bar 1:3; Jer 28:1–4 LXX.

Books of the Bible cited *without* chapter should ordinarily be spelled out.

Books of the Bible cited *with* chapter (or with chapter and verse) are abbreviated, unless they come at the beginning of the sentence.

In articles written in German or French, authors may choose abbreviations and styles common in the respective languages (e.g., 1Kön 5,24).

Abbreviations

Abbreviations of Biblical Books and Other Ancient Sources

- Gen, Exod, Lev, Num, Deut, Josh, Judg, Ruth, 1–2 Sam (LXX: 1–2 Kgdms), 1–2 Kgs (LXX: 3–4 Kgdms), 1–2 Chr, Ezra, Neh, Esth, Job, Ps/Pss, Prov, Qoh (or Eccl), Song (or Cant), Isa, Jer, Lam, Ezek, Dan, Hos, Joel, Amos, Obad, Jonah, Mic, Nah, Hab, Zeph, Hag, Zech, Mal
- Matt, Mark, Luke, John, Acts, Rom, 1–2 Cor, Gal, Eph, Phil, Col, 1–2 Thess, 1–2 Tim, Titus, Phlm, Heb, Jas, 1–2 Pet, 1–2–3 John, Jude, Rev
- Tob, Jdt, Add Esth, Wis, Sir, Bar, Ep Jer, Add Dan, Pr Azar, Sg Three, Sus, Bel, 1–4 Macc, 1–2 Esd, Pr Man, Ps 151
- For other ancient sources, see the *SBL Handbook of Style*.

Abbreviations of Journals and Series

Abbreviations of journals and series should follow the *SBL Handbook of Style*. For cases not listed there, the abbreviations of RGG 4 may be followed: *Abkürzungen Theologie und Religionswissenschaften nach RGG4*. UTB 2868. Edited by Redaktion der RGG4. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2007.

Other Abbreviations

HB Hebrew Bible

NT New Testament

OT Old Testament

ch(s). chapter(s) (e.g., “ch. 3” – with space between “ch.” and the number)

v(v). verse(s) (e.g., “vv. 3–6” – with space between “vv.” and the numbers)

par(r). and the parallel text(s)



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Hyphens and Dashes

Please distinguish between hyphens (e.g., first-century writer), en dashes (e.g., Ps 1:1–3; 1972–1983), and em dashes (e.g., “I know who you are—the Holy One of God!”). All Unicode fonts offer separate characters for each. Note that there is no space on either side of the hyphen, en dash, or em dash. (Exception for articles in German: They might include a space before and after the em dash).

Do not use any automatic hyphenation capability that your word-processing software may have; that is, turn off auto-hyphenation so that words will not be broken by “soft hyphens” at line endings.

Quotations

Normally *double* quotation marks should be used (articles written in English: US style, like “this”; articles written in German: German style, like „this“; articles written in French: French style, like « this »). In articles written in English, quotation marks belong *after* periods and commas, and *before* other punctuation, including question marks, colons, and semicolons (unless the punctuation is part of the original material being quoted). (In articles written in German and French, the ordinary conventions of German and French can be followed.) Single quotation marks should only be used to indicate quotations within double quotation marks.

E.g., I am not a “pedant.”

This man, who claims he is not a “pedant,” nonetheless likes making rules about commas.

“He says he’s not a ‘pedant.’”

Macbeth asks, “Is this a dagger which I see before me?”

Is it true that “time heals all wounds”?

Martin Noth wrote the article “‘Names’ and ‘Numbers’: Genealogies in the Book of Numbers.”

See Smith, “example,” 3–15; Wagner, “example-title without following page numbers”; Miller, “example,” 22–28.

Ellipses

When an ellipsis is used within a sentence, it should be preceded and followed by a space.

“You shall not ... let your voice be heard.”

When a grammatically complete sentence is followed by an ellipsis, the punctuation for the sentence (including period) comes first, followed immediately (no space) by the ellipsis. As usual, a space is used before the following sentence begins.

“You shall not ... let your voice be heard.... Then you shall shout.”

Punctuation may follow an ellipsis in the middle of a quotation when the material omitted precedes that punctuation. In this case, there should be no space between the last word of the quotation and the ellipsis or between the ellipsis and the original punctuation.

“Potiphar, an officer..., bought him from the Ishmaelites.”

We discourage the use of an ellipsis at the beginning of a quotation, even if the quotation begins mid-sentence; readers will readily enough infer that the quoted material had a fuller context.



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Likewise, it is usually unnecessary to include an ellipsis at the end of a quotation. The most common exception to this is when a quotation is intentionally left incomplete.

Israel's Little Credo begins "A wandering Aramean..." (Deut 26:5-9).

Publication

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