# NOTES FOR CONTRIBUTORS

## *JGVW*'S REMIT

Contributions to *JGVW* are invited from diverse fields of research on digital play, video games as well as virtual environments and art. We seek to provide a platform for vivid critical exchange between scholars across multiple discourses. Typical subject areas include:

### Theory and criticism

Theoretical inquiries of games, virtual worlds and ludic systems, including but not limited to: aesthetics and philosophies of games, post-humanism, diversity and representation, queer and gender studies, history (of and in games), games and politics, rhetorical approaches, discourse analysis and semiotics, genre criticism and new literacy studies.

### Design and materiality

Approaches to the practice of game design in digital and analogue domains, including but not limited to: design studies, critical code studies, platform studies and media archaeology.

### Performance and play

Approaches exploring performative and critical dimensions of play as well as the impact of new technologies on players and player culture. Consideration of games as affective experiences, material assemblages, relational networks and social practices.

### Space and environment

Approaches considering the creation, occupation and use of ludic spaces in digital and analogue domains, including but not limited to: eco-humanities and space studies, post-colonialism, ambient gaming and augmented/mixed/virtual realities.

### Education and pedagogy

Perspectives on the role of game studies and game design in (higher) education.
*JGVW* publishes general and themed issues. Themes for future issues are announced in the journal. *JGVW* is published in British English with -ize endings.

## MANUSCRIPTS WILL BE EVALUATED BY DOUBLE-BLIND PEER REVIEW

Research articles including long and short papers, poster abstracts, research reports and interviews should:
- Contain original research or scholarship
- Not be under consideration by any other publication
- Be written in a clear and concise style
- Conform to the instructions outlined below.

Contributors are requested to adhere to the following word limits:
Long articles: 5,000–8,000 words
Short articles: 3,000–5,000 words
Reviews (books, VR and arts, games and other relevant software), and interviews: 1500–2000 words.

## FORMAT OF SUBMITTED ARTICLES

- Submissions to *JGVW* should be submitted as a Word document directly to the Intellect website at https://www.intellectbooks.com/journal-of-gaming-virtual-worlds. The article should be 'anonymized', and contain an abstract and up to six keywords. You should delete the 'file properties' or 'summary info' of your document (see file menu) that reveal your name and institution. Be sure to add your full name and address in the e-mail message to the Editor.
- Reviews of books, games and other relevant software should be sent to Matthew S.S. Johnson at matjohn@siue.edu. VR & Arts reviews should be sent to Phylis Johnson at phylisj@yahoo.com.
- Data required before publication: submissions accepted for publication cannot be sent to the publishers (Intellect) until they contain:
  - Correct Harvard system references (see the Intellect Style guide for details)
  - Author name(s) and institutional affiliation(s)
  - Abstract (max. 150 words) in English
  - Keywords (max. 6) in English
  - Author biography/ -ies in English (*c.* 50–100 words), as well as author email and street addresses
  - A list of 'References' containing only works cited in the article.
- Font should be Times New Roman 12 one-and-a-half spaces and left-aligned, not justified.
- Margins should be 1in/2.5cm all round.
- Pagination should be continuous with numbers applied to bottom right.
- Images – screenshots, tables, graphs, graphics and photographs – should all be entitled 'Figure', be numbered consecutively and be clearly legible. The source must be indicated below each. For reproduction of copyrighted material, authors must obtain written permission from the copyright holder(s). If images are *less* than half a page in size, they may be inserted into the text according to the place of insertion. If larger, they should be placed on separate pages at the end of the article. In this case, ensure that an indication has been given as to where they should be placed in the text, e.g., *Insert Figure 3 here.*
- Quotations should be used sparingly and be identified by 'single' quotation marks if they are embedded in the text. Longer quotations (i.e. longer than 40 words) should be indented on both sides (1cm), without quotes. Both should be referenced using the Harvard system. The page number(s) must be included. For quotations within quotations "double" quotation marks should be used.
- If a quotation or referenced passage spans more than one page, give exact page numbers. Example: 'Bates (2006: 10–4) claims that... .'

- If quotation marks are used for emphasis or authorial/ironic distance, please use 'single' quotation marks throughout.
- Foreign words and phrases inserted in the text should be in *italics*.
- For subsidiary information and Harvard-style references, rounded brackets '(…)' should be used. Square brackets '[…]' should only be used within quotations, to indicate changes to the original and as 'brackets-within-brackets', e.g., '(although Miller [1988] [and other experts] claim the opposite)'.

## ENDNOTES, REFERENCES AND CITATIONS

- 'Explanatory notes' should be kept to a minimum: they will appear in the outside left or right margins of the text. They should not contain publication details; submit all these as references. Please do not use the Word (or equivalent) 'Footnote' facility but list notes in standard formatting at the end of the manuscript, i.e. ensure that they appear as endnotes, not footnotes.
- Place endnote marks outside the punctuation (*after* the comma or full stop).[1] The note mark must be in superscripted Arabic (1, 2, 3), not Roman (i, ii, iii).
- Bibliographical references should use the 'Harvard system/style' (author + year: page), e.g., (Freeman 2004: 236) inserted into the text.

All references must identify an author (surname or institution name) for all documents, whether found in archives, newspapers, the Internet, etc. The 'author' for a law or bill will be the legislative body/parliament of a country, e.g., the United Kingdom Parliament. The author of a news item is the journalist (his/her by-line) or the news agency, not the newspaper.

- Each Harvard-style reference should be fully sourced in a list of 'References' at the end of the text. Publications not mentioned in the text should not be included in this list, though they may be included under a separate 'Further reading' list.
- Works published by more than one or two authors need to be referenced in full, with all authors listed, in the bibliography. In-text references should only contain the name of the first author, followed by

'et al.'. If a publication has two authors, both names should be mentioned in the text and bibliography.

## CITATION STANDARDS
Please follow the Intellect Styleguide, which is available from the Intellect website.

## PERMISSIONS/COPYRIGHT/LIABILITY
Copyright clearance should be indicated by the contributor and is always the responsibility of the contributor. The author retains copyright of their contribution and grants Intellect an exclusive license to publish, Intellect retains copyright of the PDF version of the article. The copyright license form should be completed and sent to the Editors to accompany every submission.

## GUEST-EDITED ISSUES
Proposals for guest-edited issues are welcome at any time but should be submitted at least twelve months before intended publication and be preceded by an expression-of-interest email to the Associate Editors. Proposals should contain an abstract outlining the theme, theoretical background and aims of the issue (250–300 words), CVs and brief introductory notes for the guest editors, and between seven and ten abstracts of pre-selected papers (350–500 words each). If a proposal is accepted, the Associate Editors will normally select no more than six of those abstracts for the proposed issue but may suggest that the remaining papers be submitted for publication in later *JGVW* issues. Please note that only long papers (5,000–8,000 words) can be accepted for guest-edited issues.

The role of the guest editor will normally include

- Soliciting and vetting articles for consideration in the Special Issue.
- Undertaking the review process to meet the standards of the Journal. A member of the *JGVW* team acts as a Liaison Editor, involved in overseeing the review process alongside the Guest Editor(s).
- Undertaking the majority of contributor liaison, including advising authors of review outcomes and revisions to their work.
- Providing an introduction/editorial for the Special Issue.