

THE COLLEGE LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION



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About *CLAJ*

I. General Publication Information

The *CLA Journal* (ISSN 0007-8549) is a multilingual peer-reviewed bi-annual publication by the College Language Association. It is issued in March and September of each year. The subscription price for *CLAJ* to non-members and to libraries is \$80.00 yearly in the United States, \$82.50 in Canada, and \$93.00 in other countries. The price of current single copies is \$42.75. The price of single copies of current Special Issues is \$43.75.

II. *CLAJ* Mission Statement

Established in 1957, *CLAJ* is a multilingual, international publication that fosters socially engaged, innovative, and groundbreaking scholarship in language, literature, linguistics, and pedagogy cultivated by the diverse international membership of CLA. *CLAJ* is the voice of a community of scholars, the first in establishing a forum for intellectual discourse among black scholars in language and literary studies. Articles treating the languages and literatures of all nations will be deemed worthy of careful consideration for publication. In keeping with its desire to develop the study of the languages and literatures of Africa and its global diaspora as an important area of scholarship, *CLAJ* is committed to offering critical perspectives and new developments in the analysis of language, literature, and cultural studies representative of the diverse scholarly interests of its members while privileging the African diaspora and transcultural black identities. *CLAJ* neither considers previously published material nor manuscripts submitted elsewhere.

III. CLA Membership Requirement

CLAJ welcomes year-round, mission-appropriate submissions yet limits publication of any work considered to only those authors who **have** or **will** satisfy prerequisite membership in the organization.

IV. Formatting Requirements for Essays Submitted for Publication in *CLAJ*

CLAJ requires standard formatting for all essays, including those submitted for consideration in special issues. Submissions that do not adhere to these specifications will not be considered for publication. For regular biannual issues, your anonymous manuscript should be submitted as an email attachment to Dr. Sandra G. Shannon, *CLAJ* Editor, at editor@clascholars.org.

- Manuscripts must be Microsoft Word documents, double spaced, with one-inch margins, and Times New Roman 12 pt. font.
- Manuscripts should be approximately 20-24 pages (7000-8000 words), which exclude footnotes and works cited.
- Formatting and citations should conform to *MLA Handbook* (8th Edition, 2016).
- *CLAJ* requires references in the form of footnotes.

Manuscripts should also be accompanied by a separate additional file that contains

- a cover letter with the author's name, address, email address, telephone number, and professional affiliation.
- an abstract of the essay that does not exceed 250 words formatted as a single-spaced page with the essay title and author's name.
- a biographical sketch of the author in approximately 100 words. (If the work is collaborative, a separate biographical sketch is required for each author.)
- A statement of the author's CLA membership status.

V. Guidelines for Book Reviews and Book Reviewers

CLAJ currently considers unsolicited book reviews for publication and dispatches books to qualified members for solicited reviews.

If you would like to submit an unsolicited book review, suggest a book for review, or request to become a reviewer, please send an email to the *CLAJ* Book Review Editor, Dr. Tosha Sampson-Choma at tchoma@ksu.edu. If, after a week, you have not received an acknowledgment of your query or submission, please query again or write to the senior editor of the *CLAJ* at editor@clascholars.org. Please write "Book Review Query" or "Book Review Submission" in the subject line of the email as applicable.

The book review should

- include a brief summary of the book's central argument.
- offer an assessment of the book's contribution to the existing literature in its field.
- provide a frank evaluation of the book's strengths and weaknesses.
- maintain a collegial and constructive tone.
- adhere to MLA style guidelines.
- be 500-2000 words in length.

VI. Publication Decisions

Upon completion of the external review process and editorial decision, authors will receive prompt communication by email regarding the status of their essay. Direct specific questions regarding the review process to editor@clascholars.org. All decisions are final.

VII. Guidelines for Special Issues

To propose a special issue, prospective guest editors need to

- submit a 500-word abstract describing the issue and its scholarly significance.
- include a list of contributors, their essay titles, and their corresponding abstracts (200-300 words).
- provide a timeline of completion.
- note that the special issue has a 100-page minimum.
- alternately, if the guest editor(s) plans an open call for papers (CFP), they should include a draft of the CFP and information regarding the circulation of the CFP.

Once the special issue is approved, the Guest Editor will lead the process from proposal to publication.

The Guest Editor

- develops and maintains timelines to ensure timely publication.
- oversees the peer review process.
- acts as a point of contact for reviewers and authors.
- copyedits the submitted essays.
- ensures each essay adheres to *CLAJ* formatting requirements (see Section IV).
- compiles the table of contents.
- writes an introduction contextualizing the submissions.
- sends all essays as a group in a zip file of individual Microsoft Word documents to *CLAJ* editor at editor@clascholars.org.
- ensures that the required information described in Section IV accompanies the essays.
- provides evidence to the *CLAJ* Editor that all contributors have paid memberships to CLA
- submits their own biographical sketch (100 words), full name and affiliation, telephone number, email address, and mailing address.

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THE COLLEGE LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION

www.clascholars.org

A PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION OF COLLEGE TEACHERS OF ENGLISH AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES

The College Language Association, founded in 1937 by a group of Black scholars and educators, is an organization of college teachers of English and foreign languages which serves the academic, scholarly and professional interests of its members and the collegiate communities they represent. Since 1957, the association has published the *CLA Journal*, a peer-reviewed biannual publication featuring scholarly research and reviews of books in the areas of language, literature, linguistics and pedagogy.

The College Language Association . . .

- Fosters high professional standards for teachers of language and literature and promotes productive scholarship among its members;
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- Holds an annual convention for presentation of scholarly papers, brought in by the association;
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