



Completing the Review

Reviewer Guidelines

The purpose of peer review is to contribute to the Editors necessary information for making a decision as to whether or not a submission should be published in *Frontiers*. To make this contribution efficient and effective, reviewers are provided with a form to report their review and recommend a specific course of editorial action.

The Review Form should be completed online, and peer reviewers will be able to access it once they have accepted the review request. However, reviewers who wish to complete the Form offline can download a copy thereof by clicking [here if reviewing a manuscript](#) or [here if reviewing an essay](#). In addition to completing the Review Form, reviewers are welcome to upload documents* to support their review, e.g., their discursive review report in a Word document, or a copy of the submitted manuscript with comments added or tracked changes. Also, reviewers are welcome to submit confidential comments to the Editors in the appropriate section of the Review Form if necessary.

***Note:** When uploading documents, please ensure that you have removed any and all personally identifying information, including metadata, from your document so as to ensure the integrity of the double-blind peer review process.

Reviewers should keep in mind that the most useful reports set out the reasons for or against publication. Reviewers' reports should help authors strengthen the manuscript so that it may become acceptable for future publication in *Frontiers* or elsewhere. When offering a negative review, peer reviewers should explain the major weaknesses of the manuscript so that authors of rejected manuscripts understand the basis for the editorial decision and how the manuscript can be improved. Colleagues new to reviewing may find [this Insider Higher Ed article](#) helpful in this regard.

Competing Interests

Reviewers should reveal at the time they are asked to critique a manuscript if they have conflicts of interest that could complicate their review. Reviewers must disclose to editors any conflicts of interest that could bias their opinions of the manuscript, and should recuse themselves from reviewing specific manuscripts if the potential for bias exists. Reviewers must not use knowledge of the work they are reviewing before its publication to further their own interests.

For further information, please take a few minutes to familiarize yourself with our [Peer Review Policy](#).

Thank you for reviewing for *Frontiers*!

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