Breaking Into Print

General Advice

Seeking to publish your first article/book? The items listed here provide some sage advice. Some material related to popular or inspirational writing is included, but the major emphasis is on scholarly or academic literature.

Assumes you already have a paper or dissertation chapter and wish to revise it for publication as a journal article. Specific step by step instructions. See especially what it says about making an argument and creating a logical whole. Also deals with motivation.

Encouragement and tips for practitioners to publish on Christian psychology.

Specific detailed advise on how to revise the dissertation for publication as a book. Also explains why the average dissertation should be published as one or more journal articles, not as a book.

Book publishing. Practical discussion of topics like what to expect from a publisher, submitting proposals, peer review, responding to editing, contracts, copyright, how to deliver a MS, etc.

Demonstrates how a cover letter can establish the author’s credibility, help ensure that a publisher seriously considers the manuscript, and begin a positive rapport with the editorial staff.

What the editor of RTR looks for in an article.

Practical, detailed advice on the writing and publication process from start to finish.

Advises the writer on both scholarly writing and publishing. Includes practical and often detailed advice by an experienced researcher.

Begins with finding one’s voice and warns against unappealing writing postures. Explains to the new scholar how to find a venue for publication and deal with editors.
What the editor of JETS looks for in an article.

Advice from a researcher, best-selling author, and the creator and editor of seven book series.

An introduction to scholarly publishing covering topics such as choosing and working with a publisher, submitting journal articles for publication, and revising a dissertation for publication.

Practical tips on how to rewrite your dissertation so it attracts a publisher.

Practical tips on how to approach textbook publishing.

“This article seeks to inform authors—particularly first-time academic authors—about the overlooked details and unanticipated tasks that emerge during the production and publication of an academic book.”

Detailed advice on academic publishing from a prolific writer and editor in biblical studies. Helps understand and navigate the world of publishing for various types of scholarly writing.

Begins with reasons to write and ends with working with coauthors and mentoring new scholars in writing. Deals with multiple types of scholarly writing and publishing.

By former editor of JAAR. Notes that most articles are rejected. Suggests being focused, writing to advance rather than rehash knowledge, and carefully noting reviewers’ comments.

Common sense encouragement and exhortation to set aside phoney excuses, schedule time for writing, and get busy. Also advice on how to write, submit, revise, and resubmit.

Selecting a publisher, preparing a proposal, negotiating a contract, marketing, taxes, etc.
Publisher Specific Information

Assuming you have already written an article or book, use these resources to identify publishers who may be interested in your topic/manuscript. Almost every journal and publisher has up-to-date editorial policies posted at a website. This includes information on what topics the publisher is interested in, how to submit a manuscript, how to format the manuscript, etc. For example, find instructions for contributors to JETS at [http://www.etsjets.org/JETS_Instructions](http://www.etsjets.org/JETS_Instructions) and for JBL at: [http://www.sbl-site.org/publications/PublishingWithSBL/JBL_Instructions.pdf](http://www.sbl-site.org/publications/PublishingWithSBL/JBL_Instructions.pdf).

ATLA Religion Database
Search for a topic in ATLA and note the journals that include it. Under Publications, view the list of journals indexed in ATLA. Check the list to see titles to consider as venues for your article. Click a title to see whether indexing is current. If not, the journal may be defunct.

*Christian Writers’ Market Guide.* Reference BV2369.5 .U6 S78
Annual. Lists book publishers alphabetically and topically. Tells where writers can find other helps. Emphasis on non-scholarly literature.

MIAR ([http://miar.ub.edu/](http://miar.ub.edu/))
Collects data about scholarly journals. Look up a known journal for information about subjects it covers, where it is indexed, and its ICDS (Survival Index) number if included.

*Writer’s Market.* Reference PN161 .W83
Annual. “Where and how to sell what you write.” A standard listing of [mostly] non-scholarly book and magazine publishers. Includes names of editors, types of desired literature, submission requirements, payment rates, etc.