

Journal of Chemical Education

Book and Media Review FAQs

Are you interested in writing a book (or media) review for the *Journal of Chemical Education*?

Who can write a book or media review for the *Journal of Chemical Education*?

You do not have to be a subscriber to the *Journal* or a member of the Division of Chemical Education, but you should read some reviews in recent issues. Please don't ask to review a book for which you have any conflict of interest. For example, you should not review something written by your mentor (or student), a collaborator, or a close friend.

How do I become a book reviewer?

Sign up with the book and media review editor, Cheryl B. Frech, cfrech@uco.edu. Cheryl needs your contact information and areas of interest.

How do I get a book?

Cheryl Frech maintains a running inventory of the books and other materials on hand for review. She can email you the list of titles. If there is a title on the list that is of interest to you, the book will be shipped to you via UPS. In accompanying correspondence, you will be provided some general review guidelines.

What if I don't find a book on the list?

If there is a particular book that you would like to review that is not on the list, you can contact the publisher to request a review copy, or ask Cheryl Frech to do this on your behalf. If Cheryl has your contact information, she can contact you when a title of interest is available for you to review.

What if I am an author who wants to have my book reviewed in JCE?

Please contact your publisher and arrange for a review copy of your book to be shipped to Cheryl Frech.

How long do I have to read the book and write the review?

The suggested time is 6-8 weeks. If a book is sent to you and no review is returned within that time, you can expect a reminder from the editor.

How many words should I write?

Each issue of the *Journal* has different amounts of space available for book reviews. Most reviews are from 500 to 1000 words. Because of their nature, some books will take more words to describe and evaluate than others. Please check spelling and grammar before submitting a review.

What makes a good book review?

Book reviews are successful when readers become interested in a book after reading your review. The best reviews are well written and provide a feel for the book without rewriting the table of contents. Do compare a book to others in the area when appropriate. Don't include lengthy autobiographical material; write about the book. If you would not recommend a book, state this in your review and/or contact the book and media review editor.

What happens when I have completed the review?

Submit the review to the book and media review editor as instructed. The review will be edited and you will be contacted if there are any corrections or clarifications needed. When the review is ready to be placed in an issue of the *Journal*, you will receive a PDF proof copy.

When will my review be published?

This depends on several factors. Some reviews on similar topics are grouped to appear in a particular issue of the *Journal*. In most cases your review will be published in two to six months of submission, assuming there are no problems.

What happens after my review is published?

The book is yours to keep. If you would like additional copies of the *Journal* issue in which your review is published, contact the book and media review editor.

For additional information, contact:

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