

Submission Guidelines

1. Scope and Focus

The *LENS (Looking East, New Scholarship)* is a peer-reviewed student journal dedicated to research on Asia in the fields of social sciences and humanities. The journal welcomes interdisciplinary approaches and encourages contributions that explore Asia-related topics from diverse geographical and methodological perspectives. Studies addressing Asia beyond its geographical boundaries—such as diaspora, transnational networks, and cultural exchanges—are also welcome.

2. Eligibility

Submissions are accepted from:

- Master's and PhD students enrolled in accredited universities.
- Recent graduates (within one year of obtaining their Bachelor's degree), subject to editorial review and approval.
- Early-career researchers whose work aligns with the journal's scope.

Collaborative submissions (e.g., co-authored with supervisors or peers) are permitted, provided the student author is the primary contributor.

3. Types of Submissions

The journal accepts the following categories:

- **Research Articles** (6,000–8,000 words): Original scholarly works presenting research findings or theoretical discussions.
- **Book Reviews** (1,000–1,500 words): Reviews of recent publications relevant to Asian studies.
- **PhD Thesis Reviews** (up to 2,500 words): Analytical overviews of dissertations prior to defense, emphasizing theoretical contributions and methodological innovation.
- **Translations** (up to 3,000 words): Translations of short academic or literary texts accompanied by a critical commentary or introduction.

Word counts include references but exclude appendices and tables.

4. Submission Requirements

- Manuscripts must be **unpublished** and **not under consideration elsewhere**.
- Texts should be written in **English**.
- Formatting:
 - Font: Times New Roman, size 12, double-spaced.
 - Citation style: **APA 7th edition (author–date system)**.
 - Include an abstract (150–200 words) and 4–6 keywords.
 - All figures, tables, and images must include captions and source attributions.
- Submissions should include:

1. A separate **title page** with author's name, institutional affiliation, and contact information.
2. The **manuscript file** anonymized for peer review.
3. A brief **biographical note** (50–80 words) for publication.

5. Important dates

- **Submission deadline:** constantly accepting
- **Notification of review results:** 2-5 months
- **Publication date:** the next issue after the review is completed

6. Review Process

All research articles undergo a **double-blind peer review** by at least two reviewers. Book reviews and translations are assessed by the editorial board. The editorial team reserves the right to make minor stylistic or formatting edits.

7. Ethical Standards

The journal adheres to the ethical principles and code of conduct established by Vytautas Magnus University. Authors are expected to:

- Ensure originality and proper citation of all sources.
- Obtain necessary permissions for reproduced materials.
- Disclose any potential conflicts of interest.
- Respect confidentiality and research integrity.

Plagiarism, fabrication, or other forms of academic misconduct will result in rejection or retraction of the submission.

8. Citation and Reference Formatting (APA 7th Edition)

Authors must follow the **APA 7th edition** style for all in-text citations and references.

In-text citations

- **Single author:** (Said, 1978)
- **Two authors:** (Anderson & Lee, 2020)
- **Three or more authors:** (Chen et al., 2019)
- **Direct quotation:** Include page number(s) — e.g., (Mishra, 2015, p. 42).
- For multiple sources: (Klein, 2012; Watanabe, 2018; Zhao & Park, 2021)

Reference list

References should be placed at the end of the manuscript, arranged alphabetically by author surname, and formatted with a hanging indent. Examples:

Book:

Said, E. W. (1978). *Orientalism*. Pantheon Books.

Book chapter:

Chatterjee, P. (1993). The nation and its fragments. In *The nation and its fragments: Colonial and postcolonial histories* (pp. 1–13). Princeton University Press.

Journal article:

Iwabuchi, K. (2002). Recentering globalization through Japanese cultural presence. *Inter-Asia Cultural Studies*, 3(2), 201–213. <https://doi.org/10.xxxxxx>

Online source:

Asian Development Bank. (2021). *Asian economic outlook 2021*. <https://www.adb.org/publications>

9. Transliteration and Diacritics

Authors must use standardized transliteration systems when including words, names, or titles in East Asian languages:

- **Japanese:** Use **Modified Hepburn romanization** (e.g., *Tōkyō*, *shinjitai*). Long vowels should be indicated with macrons (ō, ū). Avoid using *ou* or *oo* instead of ō.
- **Chinese:** Use **Hanyu Pinyin** without tone marks unless needed for clarity (e.g., *Beijing*, *Zhongguo*). Traditional characters may be cited where relevant, but simplified forms should be standard.
- **Korean:** Use **Revised Romanization of Korean** (e.g., *Seoul*, *Hanguk*), not the McCune–Reischauer system.

Foreign terms that appear frequently may be italicized at first mention, followed by the English equivalent in parentheses. Thereafter, use only the English term.

10. Copyright and Licensing

Authors retain copyright of their work while granting the *LENS* the right of first publication. Articles may be distributed under a [Creative Commons license, if applicable].

11. Contact

For inquiries and submissions, please contact:

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