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## **Contributions**

Drawing on scholarship in the fields of history, literary studies, media and communication, anthropology, folkloristics, sociology, and American studies, among others, SOAR: Society of Americanists Review's mission is to bring together an interdisciplinary and international conversation on the history, culture, and social life of the United States.

As the flagship journal of the Society of Americanists, SOAR seeks to publish scholarship of the highest caliber and broadest appeal. Individual article submissions undergo a rigorous multi-tiered peer review process which includes the journal's editorial staff, advisory board members, and external reviewers. In addition to individual submissions, special issue proposals are welcomed and will receive an expedited initial review.

The journal publishes work in a variety of formats, including research articles; forum, discussion, memorial, and state-of-the-field essays; dialogues and interviews; reports on programs, organizations, and pedagogy; as well as book, exhibit, and media reviews. Multimedia content is encouraged and can be accommodated at the discretion of the editors.

To ensure that your piece is reviewed by the appropriate member of the editorial staff, please indicate the journal section to which you wish to submit. The "articles" section is intended for research-based articles of approximately 6,000 – 9,000 words. Both solicited and unsolicited articles can be submitted for review. Shorter research notes, survey articles, or commentaries should be submitted to the "Essays, Notes, and Dialogue" section. Unsolicited work can be submitted here as well, but you may wish to consult with the Features Editor prior to submission. Media and book review authors should also submit their manuscripts here, but only with prior discussion and approval from the Review Editor.

Please visit the SOAR journal website (<https://sites.psu.edu/americanist/journal>) for full submission details.

## **About SOA**

The Society of Americanists (SOA) is a coalition of persons, organizations, and academic programs devoted to the study of the United States. SOA has as its purpose fostering integrated studies of American history, society, arts, and culture in all their aspects; providing a forum for discussion of scholarly and professional issues among its members, including an annual conference and communications; and promotion of the profession of Americanists devoted to the study of the United States in a global context. Its distinctive niche in the organizational landscape of learned, professional societies in American Studies is to represent the discipline and profession of Americanists and advance analytical approaches to the research and interpretation of the United States.

The SOA is a not-for-profit educational organization incorporated in the United States. In compliance with civil rights laws, it does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, ethnicity, religion, national origin, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, sex, marital status, disability, or status as a U.S. veteran. It also does not enter into boycotts or exclusionary actions against scholars on the basis of national origin, political beliefs, or academic affiliation.

## Editors' Note

**I**t is a pleasure to launch the inaugural issue of *SOAR*. For our debut, we investigate the theme of “Assessing American Studies,” to reflect on the state of the field, with various possibilities for future scholarship. As a journal dedicated to interdisciplinary, international collaboration, we are proud to feature essays which represent our mission and set the groundwork for intellectual activities to come. As many of the essays indicate, Americanists are a group both grounded in a particular moment in the formation of American Studies, but also all expansive, as each of us brings different disciplinary questions, curiosities, and geographic perspectives to the conversation. This issue presents a variety of approaches to American Studies, while also reflecting on key themes that have dominated the literature in the field: memory, context, language, and the role of American Studies outside of the United States. The issue moves through the central tasks that we as Americanist scholars have, sliding between methodologies and interests. What we have in common is a dedication to the study of American culture, but the contested nature of culture allows for many organizations, media, and outlets to thrive. We welcome you to the dialogue and encourage you to contribute to new formulations of American Studies in this exciting time for collaboration.

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