**Article Types**

*Perspectives on Politics* publishes several types of articles, organized into distinct sections.

The front end of the journal consists of peer-reviewed articles, with the exception of the annual presidential address. Articles are all submitted for review through the [Editorial Manager](#) system. All submitted articles are reviewed in-house, and then those deemed broadly consistent with the editorial purposes and philosophy of the journal are sent out to four external reviewers. Both in-house and external evaluation processes involve double-blind review.

Contributions to the “Articles” section generally follow the traditional conventions for academic journal articles. *Perspectives* articles are typically works of original research or creative syntheses of such works. Drawing on authors’ scholarly expertise, they engage theoretical literatures in order to address important political issues or phenomena. In keeping with the journal’s distinctive mission, these articles ought to be well-written and addressed to a broad readership of political scientists, social scientists more generally, civic leaders, and policymakers. There is no one-size-fits-all model for *Perspectives* articles, but articles should represent high-end research that is broader and more integrative than the research published by more specialized disciplinary and sub-disciplinary journals. As part of the submission process, we ask that all prospective authors submit a brief explanation of why they have chosen to submit their work to *Perspectives* and how it is consistent with the distinctive mission and audience of our journal.

Articles can be as long as 12,000 words, including citations and bibliography. Most of our space is devoted to individual articles (whether individually written or co-authored) chosen through unsolicited submission and peer review. The editorial team will also experiment with calls for papers on topics of broad interest to the discipline. Those opportunities will be broadly advertised and are open to all potential authors and will follow normal submission procedures. The journal is not opposed to articles jointly submitted on a common theme, but each and every submission will be evaluated individually and will have to pass muster through the peer review system.

The journal has long included a “Reflections” section. Reflections are contemplative, provocative, or programmatic essays that address important political science questions (and controversies) in interesting ways but are not necessarily as systematic and focused as research articles. Within these submissions, authors can offer short, sharp commentaries on a political phenomenon or policy problem; engage scholarly arguments to highlight methodological or substantive disagreements; or provide insightful discussion of other issues of interest to political scientists. These pieces are not subject to a double-blind review process, and they will be evaluated, developed, and edited by the editor-in-chief in accordance with priorities established by the editorial team and editorial board. Reflections contributions range from 5,000-7,000 words. These may also be submitted as unsolicited manuscripts via editorial manager. Authors wishing to propose reflections to the editors before committing to writing them should communicate their questions via perspectives@apsanet.org to maintain anonymity.
The back end of *Perspectives* consists of Review Essays, Symposia, Critical Dialogues, and Book Reviews. These works are all commissioned and edited by the Book Review Editor in consultation with the editorial staff.

- **Review Essays** address two or more books in order to consider how they illuminate a larger conceptual, political, or normative concern. Such essays typically bring a range of texts into dialogue with one another, identifying both thematic commonalities and methodological differences. Review essays vary in length, averaging about 4,000 words. Review essays are solicited by the Book Review Editor.

- **Symposia** bring together a range of commentators to discuss a single book from multiple perspectives. Symposia are solicited and developed by the Book Review Editor. Perspectives does not accept unsolicited symposia for publication through the Editorial Manager system.

- **Critical Dialogues** typically bring into conversation the authors of two recent books which engage similar topics or themes. Each author reviews the other’s book, and then responds to the other’s review.

- **Book Reviews** typically address one, two, or three books. *Perspectives* book reviews seek to relate books under review to broader scholarly literatures and political debates.