VJTM Peer Review - Book Review Form

Book Reviews

Book review submissions are pieces of literary criticism that describe or analyze a book's content and merit. More than simply summarizing the work, insert your well thought out criticism and praise with specific examples and references to other material that covers the same topic. The goal is to contribute to the academic discussion surrounding the book, as well as to help our readers determine if they want to read it for themselves. The chosen book must relate to the scope of the journal and the issue's theme for the year. Vanguard College students may not submit a book review for a textbook currently used in a class offered at Vanguard College.

	Notes
Has the book been published in the last 5 years? Reviews of books older than 5 years are not eligible for VJTM publication.	
Title : Is it reflective of the work? Is it clear and appropriate?	
Bibliographic Reference: is it formatted correctly for the resource? Example: For a theological book it should be in Chicago and a Psychology book in APA.	
Length: Under 1000 words	
Guidelines: Does it adhere to our general <u>submission guidelines</u> including theme of the current issue?	
Language: Is it accessible and easy to understand for the interdisciplinary audience at an undergraduate level.	
Main focus: Does it accurately summarize the entire book?	
Discussion/introduction: Is the review well organized? Is it a balanced review of the book showing both positive and negative?	

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Conclusion: Are the conclusions consistent with the evidence and arguments presented? Does the reviewer give a recommendation?	
Bias: Does the author of the book review appear to have a bias for or against the book they are reviewing?	

- 1. Overall statement or summary of the review and its findings in your own words
- 2. Overall strengths of the Book Review
- 3. Specific comments on the weaknesses of the review and what could be improved.

Major points which need clarification, refinement, reanalysis, rewrites and/or additional information and suggestions for what could be done to improve the review:

- 4. Recommendation
- Accept
- Accept with minor revisions
- Request major revisions
- Reject
 - 5. Rationale for recommendation