

## ***CHINOPERL: Guidelines for Authors*** **(2025)**

*CHINOPERL: Journal of Chinese Oral and Performing Literature* is a refereed annual publication that focuses on literature connected to oral transmission and/or performance, in print, on stage, and in everyday communication. This “literature” includes genres ranging from opera to storytelling, ceremonial chanting to epics, proverbs to poetry, and folksongs to hip-hop. It covers topics such as the interplay between oral and written texts and their historical and cultural contexts.

*CHINOPERL* welcomes relevant research articles that are historical, descriptive, theoretical, or interdisciplinary in nature as well as translations that are prefaced by substantial introductions. The journal also publishes research notes, conference reports, and reviews of books, media, and performances.

### **Peer-Review Process and Publication Ethics:**

Manuscripts are evaluated first by the *CHINOPERL* editorial team. When considered suitable for the journal, manuscripts are sent to at least two specialists for “double blind” peer review. The manuscript and the identities of the authors and reviewers are kept confidential by the editorial office and others involved in the peer-review process. When a decision has been made, the editor will notify authors via email. It is common for the editor to request revisions that can help authors in improving their manuscript, including those based on reviewers’ comments and suggested resources. Additional guidance on ethical practices for research, publication, and peer review is available [here](#).

Authors are welcome to suggest the names of referees who would be particularly suited to review the submission. The editor may suggest that revisions be made before the piece is sent out for peer review.

### **Submission of Manuscripts:**

Send submissions as electronic files attached to email messages to the editor at [shenj@eckerd.edu](mailto:shenj@eckerd.edu). Submission of a manuscript implies the work has not been published previously and is not currently under consideration by another journal.

Research articles not exceeding 45 double-spaced pages are preferred. Include an abstract of approximately 500 words and a list of 4–6 keywords (names and short phrases may be used). Authors are responsible for the accuracy of all quotations and for supplying complete references. In the case of translations, if the original work is not readily available, please include with the submission a scanned electronic copy or a xerox of the original to facilitate review.

To facilitate the blind review process, minimize self-reference within the article itself until the manuscript has been refereed and accepted for publication.

Research notes, conference reports, and reviews of books, media, and performances will not be sent out for outside review but will be published at the discretion of the editor and the editorial board. They should be submitted in the same format as article manuscripts.

Illustrations and photos are welcome but will be included in the published article only when they add substantial value to the piece. It is presently not feasible to regularly publish photos in color. It is possible to make supplementary materials available to readers online, however. Nontext material should be submitted as separate files. Include captions citing the sources of images or data. Figures, photographs, and maps should be provided as high-resolution JPEG or TIFF files. Authors are responsible for obtaining permission from copyright holders for reproducing illustrations, tables, or figures.

### **Formatting:**

Manuscripts should be typed in Microsoft Word in the following format:

Times New Roman, 12-point font for the main text (double-spaced) and 10-point font for footnotes; paper size 8.5" x 11.5" ("Letter" or "US Letter")

SimSun font for Chinese characters

Format paragraphs to have the same indentation for the first line for all regular body paragraphs; do not justify the paragraphs

One inch margin on all sides; pagination at the bottom of the page and centered

### **Journal Style Sheet:**

#### Footnotes and Bibliography

*CHINOPERL* in general follows the format of source citations established in *The Chicago Manual of Style* (18th edition), with an abbreviated form in footnotes (author's name, shortened Romanized or English title only, page number/s), including at the first citation, and full citations provided in a bibliography.

When citing titles of Chinese- or Japanese-language sources for a bibliography entry, include a Romanized title as well as the Chinese or Japanese characters, accompanied by an English translation in parentheses; otherwise follow the *Chicago Manual*. Below are sample footnote and bibliographic entries.

English-language book citation—

Shortened note:

Rolston, *Traditional Chinese Fiction*, p. 194.

Bibliography entry:

Rolston, David L. *Traditional Chinese Fiction and Fiction Commentary: Reading and Writing Between the Lines*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1997.

Chinese-language journal article citation—

Shortened note:

Song Lihua, "Fangyan," p. 37.

Bibliography entry:

Song Lihua 宋莉華. "Fangyan yu Ming Qing xiaoshuo ji qi chuanbo" 方言與明清小說及其傳播 (Dialect and Ming Qing novels and their transmission). *Ming Qing xiaoshuo yanjiu* 明清小說研究, no. 4 (1999): 36–50.

### Chinese Characters, Romanization, Translation, and Punctuation

Chinese characters should be inserted for passages translated from the Chinese except when the submission is primarily a work of translation. Translations from Chinese that are shorter than a complete sentence (including Chinese terms) should be followed by *pinyin* romanization and Chinese characters the first time they are mentioned in the manuscript. Except in the case of place names, names of institutions, and the names of persons, romanization should be italicized. Use complex (or “traditional”) Chinese characters and not simplified forms.

Names and terms in Chinese should be Romanized in the *pinyin* system, without diacritical marks for tones. A convenient online resource illustrating conventions for Romanizing Chinese is “[Basic Rules of Hanyu Pinyin Orthography \(Summary\)](#).”<sup>1</sup> In the case of nonstandard Chinese dialect expressions, if it is necessary to use romanization systems other than *pinyin*, provide an explanation about the system of transcription used.

Translations of Chinese expressions or titles should be given on first appearance in parentheses after the romanization and Chinese characters, as in this example: *Zhongguo wenxue shi* 中國文學史 (History of Chinese literature). Please note that only the first word and the beginning of proper nouns should be capitalized in the romanization of Chinese titles.

Punctuation for texts quoted in Chinese, with the exception of the series comma (、), should use western font followed by a space. Interpolated material within quotations should be put within square brackets.

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<sup>1</sup> This excerpt from *Chinese Romanization: Pronunciation and Orthography* by Yin Binyong and Mary Felley (Beijing: Sinolingua, 1990) is posted on the *Pinyin.Info* website, created by Mark Swofford.