**Mapping the Impossible: Journal for Fantasy Research House Style Sheet**

Articles should:

* Be 3000-5000 words (including footnotes, but excluding the works cited list)

Bionotes should:

* Be up to date
* Be written in third person
* Be a maximum of 100 words
* Include a university affiliation (either current or most recent)
* To update your name and/or pronouns on an article after publication, email journal.for.fantasy@gmail.com.

Abstracts should:

* Be a maximum of 300 words
* Be written in first person
* Include up to five descriptive keywords

Spelling and Grammar

* Use UK English unless quoting from a text, in which case the quote should preserve the spelling in the source material.
  + If your word processing program has a language setting, please select all of your text and change the document’s language to UK English.
* Pay careful attention to character spellings, author spellings, and non-English words. Ensure that you use appropriate diacritics.
  + Names should be written in the order that is traditional to the language or culture from which they originate, unless a person is better known for their name appearing in an alternate order.
* Our preference is for non-English words without a standard use in English to be italicised, particularly if parts of the word may be confused for English words, e.g. *a priori*. However, if an author prefers the practice of not italicising, they may raise this with their editor.
* Use singular “they” instead of “he or she”
* Acronyms must be spelled out in its first use with the acronym in round brackets.
* Abbreviations and contractions should be written out in full. This includes Latin abbreviations.

Punctuation

* Please use the Oxford comma.
* Please use en dashes (–) to show ranges of numbers and hyphens (-) to join words together.
* There should only be a single space between sentences.
* Longer works such as books, plays, series titles, and conferences should be italicised
* Quotations and titles of short works (short stories, scenes, poems, chapters, articles, panel titles, episodes) should be put in double quotes “ ”
* Words that are not in quotations (i.e. when using for emphasis) and quotes within quotes should be put in single quotes ‘ ’
* Longer quotations (40+ words), dialogue, and poetry lines of 4 or more should be put in a block quote. Block quotes should be double indented on the left-hand side. Quotes within quotes used in a blockquote should be put in double quotes
* Please ensure that all single and double quote marks are curved (“ and ‘) rather than straight (" and ')
* If there are italics or similar in the original quote, do not add “original emphasis” to the citation. However, if you have added italics, add “emphasis mine” to the in-text citation.
* Use square brackets around ellipses if the omission is your own and not original in the text.
* Commas and full stops come inside the quote mark. All other punctuation marks go outside.

Numbers

* Unless they are referring to data or dates, any number under 100 should be spelt out in words, including centuries.
* Dates should be written as month year or date month year, e.g., February 1954 or 2 February 1954
* The full year should be written out, e.g., 1950-1954, not 1950-54 or 1950-4
* If a series is ongoing, please use a lower-case “present” for the end of the year range, e.g., (2005-present)

References

* Please use MLA 8 for references. Refer to our cheat sheet if needed.
* Do not use a programmed citation function. All of your citations should be static.
* Use endnotes for any additional comments or references that are not mentioned in-text. However, please try to limit the use of endnotes.
* The works cited list should be organised alphabetically by author’s surname and then by title of work.
* Texts only need to be in the works cited list if they’ve been directly quoted or if major ideas from the text are referred to.
* URLs will be changed to hyperlinks, so please ensure that the links work correctly.

In-Text Citations

* In-text citations should be written at the end of a clause or sentence.
* If citing an online source or ebook without pagination, please use ‘n.p.’ for the first reference. You may omit the ‘n.p.’ in future references.
* If the scholar’s name is already included in the sentence, the only reference needed in round brackets is the page number, e.g., As Sami Schalk argues, “…” (283).
* However, if it is not clear from the sentence which author you are referencing, the author’s surname should be included in the brackets, e.g., (Schalk 283). If there are multiple authors cited with the same surname, include the first letter of the scholars’ first names, e.g., (A. Smith 179).
* If there are more than one titles cited from the same author and it is not clear from the paragraph which text is being referred to, a shortened title should be included in the round brackets with a comma between author and title, e.g., (Jemisin, *Fifth* 316).
* When citing lines from a play, the style is (I.ii.54-57) to refer to Act I, scene 2, lines 54-57.
* Audio and audiovisual sources should have a timestamp, e.g., ("Chosen" 02:40-03:25)

Trans-Inclusive Citation Practices

* If you use pronouns when referring to cited authors or real-life subjects, please check a recent bio to ensure that you are using current pronouns. Please also check that names are current.
* Unlike pen names, deadnames are **not** included in the works cited in square brackets. If you are unsure of how to cite a scholar whose work was published under a deadname, check their most recent work to see how they refer to themselves. (You may also check scholars’ records on websites like ORCID.org. For further information on appropriately citing trans scholars, see [here](https://medium.com/@MxComan/trans-citation-practices-a-quick-and-dirty-guideline-9f4168117115).)
* For the most part, you should preserve a quote exactly as it appears in the original and any addendums you make should be noted in square brackets. However, to avoid outing and/or deadnaming trans scholars and subjects, quotations that include deadnames or other misgendering terms like pronouns should be corrected **without** brackets.
  + For example, if citing an older article about the Wachowskis, the quote in your work should refer to them as “the Wachowskis” or “the Wachowski sisters” and not make reference to any incorrect language in the original source or indicate that a change was made to the quotation.
  + If you are citing an article that was written after a scholar or subject has transitioned that purposefully misgenders or deadnames them, reconsider using the source.
* Overall, bear in mind that *Mapping the Impossible* is an online journal that uses hyperlinks for many sources. Use of a deadname is not necessary to ensure that readers can find a source.

Images

* All images should include a label, e.g., Figure 3: Portrait of Wizards. (source)
* This label should be directly underneath the image, in bold typeface and centred.
* The full source should be in the bibliography, with the shortened source in the figure label.
* All authors are responsible for obtaining/confirming copyright permissions for any illustrations or images they use.
* All images must include appropriate alt-text and be accessible to a screen reader.