

PoLAR Book Review Guidelines

Reviews of single books should be approximately 1000 words long. For each additional book, you may add another 1000 words. Book review essays should be approximately 3000 words long, excluding citations.

Bibliographies and in text citations should follow the AAA style guide, available [here](#).

In writing your review, please address these five components:

1) In a sentence or two, please lay out the central problem that the author is seeking to address and the context in which he or she is seeking to address it.

2) In no more than 300 words, describe the content and structure of the book. What is the arrangement of chapters? What kinds of evidence does the author use to motivate the chapters and their argumentation? Describe the kinds of fieldwork the author conducted as well as any supplementary research using other methods.

3) In no more than 300 words, what is the author's guiding argument in the book? How is the argument supported in each of the chapters? What kinds of evidence are used to directly support the argument? If there are misalignments between argument and evidence, here is a good place to discuss them.

4) In 300-400 words, how does the author position him- or herself in relation to existing theories in the anthropology of politics and the law? How does the author see his or her contribution to the field? How would you gauge the success of the author, i.e. is the argument a convincing one?, and does it meaningfully contribute to the study of politics and the law?

5) If it hasn't already been done elsewhere in your review, in a sentence or two, please describe audiences who might be interested in the book and what level of sophistication the book is written at (beginning or advanced undergraduate, graduate, specialist).