

***Gastronomica* Guidelines for Book and Film Reviews**

Gastronomica solicits reviews of recently released books, films, documentaries, podcasts, and television series that focus on food and food systems in interesting and interdisciplinary ways. We also welcome reviews of contemporary and historical cookbooks.

We seek contributions that are creative, engaging, and lively, rather than point-by-point summaries. Reviewers should write for a general readership, using language that is accessible and free from specialized terminology or jargon. Submissions may focus on one work or may take the form of an omnibus review that explores multiple pieces simultaneously.

While there is no singular recipe for a review, we invite contributors to *Gastronomica* to draw upon an assortment of the ingredients listed below. Overall, we ask contributors to refrain from describing the piece they *wish* the author/filmmaker had produced, and instead to evaluate their chosen work in light of its particular purpose. Does the piece achieve what it set out to accomplish? Why is this work worthy of our attention?

Potential Questions to Guide Your Review:

- Background:** ➤ Situate the piece within its broader scholarly, societal, culinary, or literary context. How does it fit with current issues or debates, with previous work in this field/genre, or with other texts/films by this author/filmmaker?
- Objectives:** ➤ Identify the work's central purpose, message, or argument. What does this piece seek to show or teach its readers/viewers?
- Methods:** ➤ Comment on the extent to which, and how, the piece achieves its objectives or communicates its main message. Depending on the medium, you may wish to consider the application of research methods, the effectiveness of the narrative or visuals, and/or the structure or presentation of the work.
- Themes:** ➤ Synthesize the work. What key threads tie together or distinguish individual chapters, segments, or episodes of your chosen piece(s) – or the work(s) as a whole?
- Audience:** ➤ Describe the target audience of the work. Who would find this book or film most interesting, useful, provocative, or enjoyable? Why?
- Reactions:** ➤ Reflect upon your own sensory or emotive experience of “consuming” the piece. What feelings, ideas, questions, or responses arose as you read the book, viewed the film, or tasted – in the case of a cookbook – the recipes? What lingered on your palate long after you initially engaged with the work?
- Contributions:** ➤ Consider the overall significance of the book/film. What is important or valuable about the work to scholars, policy-makers, or the general public? What does the piece contribute to its genre/field, or to critical food studies generally? If the work is relevant to teaching, how might it be used in undergraduate or graduate-level courses?

General Requirements:

- Length:** 500 to 1,000 words (excluding citations) for single-work reviews.
Up to 5,000 words for omnibus reviews.
Please include a word count with your submission.
- Style:** Please follow *Chicago Manual of Style, 17th Edition* standards.
Use (Author, Date) format for in-text citations, if applicable.
Include a *References Cited* page at the end of your document, if needed
Use American spelling, and italics (not underlining) for emphasis.
Quote sparingly.
- File Type:** Please submit as a Word document (.doc/.docx format) only.
- Deadline:** Within **8 weeks** of receiving a book or agreeing to review a film.

Submission:

Like all other submissions to our “Food Phenomena” section, book and film reviews will be internally reviewed for publication in *Gastronomica*.

Unlike our other submissions, reviews should be submitted directly to the Reviews Editor, via email: gastroreviews@ucpress.edu. All review questions can also be routed through this email address.