

Exploring the Advantages of Book Review Publishing as an Introduction to JATS XML Production



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BACKGROUND: While the JATS XML format is widely used in scholarly publishing, many library publishers have been slow to implement this standard. Due to the challenges involved in converting, editing, and rendering article submissions into full-text XML, library publishers often lack the resources to adopt JATS as a publishing format. The complicated apparatus of even the most basic scholarly articles complicates XML production considerably. Book reviews, however, provide a less complex format for library publishers who wish to gain experience publishing in XML. Drawing on a recent experience onboarding a book review journal (*Journal of Folklore Research Reviews*) to the OJS platform, this presentation outlines a practical approach to developing an accessible XML publishing workflow.

METHODS:

1. Created a customized, annotated JATS XML book review template and a supplementary, color-coded PDF version of the template.
2. Modified the OJS interface to suit a book review workflow instead of a research article peer-review workflow.
3. Developed detailed training materials for onboarding the journal editorial team.
4. Collaborated with development team to begin the process of migrating the journal's user database and existing archive of 1700 book reviews into OJS.

RESULTS:

- The *JFRR* editorial team was successfully trained, and new book reviews are in progress.
- Future book reviews will be indexed by Google Scholar and permanently stored in a digital preservation archive.
- Book review content will be machine-readable and semantically tagged, facilitating keyword searches and increasing discoverability.

Book reviews provide an easy way for library publishers to gain experience publishing in JATS XML.



XML Book Reviews ← VS. → XML Research Articles

Short

Often less than 200 lines of XML.

Simple

No abstracts, no graphs, no section headings, one image at most (book cover), minimal or no references, minimal or no footnotes, minimal or no links, often single-author.

Quick

Using an XML template, an editor (with practice) can produce an XML book review from a Word doc in less than 5 minutes.

Economical

Can be done within current budget by editorial staff.

Easy

XML book reviews are easy to edit and correct.

Long

Often more than 1000 lines of XML.

Complex

Require abstracts, section headings, and multiple references and footnotes. Often include multiple authors, images, links, and graphs.

Time Consuming

PDFs galley and Word docs are sent to an outside vendor for XML conversion (several weeks). Vendor generated XML often requires additional editing and correction before publication (several hours).

Less Economical

Vendor fee for XML conversion.

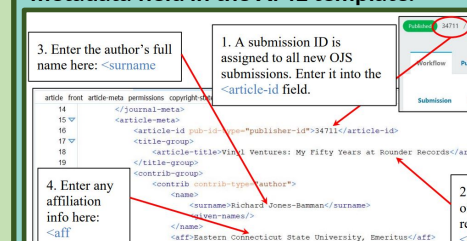
Challenging

Due to their complicated apparatus, XML research articles can be challenging to edit and correct.

Our existing XML book review template was customized to suit *JFRR*'s needs. We annotated the template to guide editorial staff through the process of adding the different elements for each review. In addition, we created an easy-to-read, color-coded PDF of the book review template.

```
t-type="book">
<person-group>
  <name>
    <surname>[enter book author full name]/>
    <given-names/>
  </name>
</person-group>
<source>[enter book title]</source>
<series></series>
<year iso-8601-date="2021">[enter book publication year]</year>
<publisher-loc>[enter publisher location]</publisher-loc>
<publisher-name>[enter publisher name]</publisher-name>
<page-range>[enter page number information]</page-range>
<price>[enter price information if available]</price>
<isbn>[enter ISBN]</isbn>
</product>
```

We also developed detailed instructions for using the Oxygen XML editor development tool with numbered directions corresponding to each metadata field in the XML template.



The example below illustrates how to add a book cover image to the review, using the `<fig>` and `<graphic>` tags, the OJS submission number, and the image file name.

```
<fig = cover image. Enter f + the submission number within the quotations marks.
<graphic = cover image. Enter the submission number and the image file name within the quotations marks.
The <copyright-statement> must be the same.
statement>Reviewers retain copyright and grant permission to the publisher to publish the review in the journal.
54 </article-meta>
55 </front>
56 <body>
57 <fig id="f34711">[enter submission number]
58 <graphic link:href="vinylventures.jpg"/>
59 </fig>
```

