

Social & Cultural Geography Special Issue Guidelines

July 2018

1. Social & Cultural Geography (SCG) encourages the submission of proposals for special issues that will be path breaking and exciting for our international readership. We have 2 proposal deadlines each year: 1 May and 1 November.
2. The normal size of special issues is a minimum of 4, maximum of 6 manuscripts (maximum of 9,000 words each, including references).
3. We strongly encourage a diversity of authorship—especially in terms of country of authors (i.e. not all authors should be from the same country or region).
4. Conveners of special issues should formally submit a written proposal to any one of the editors that includes:
 - a summary of the topic
 - an argument about its intellectual merits and relation to current debates in social & cultural geography
 - a complete list of authors (full contact details)
 - titles, abstracts, and a realistic timeline.
5. Proposals will be assessed in May and November each year.
6. The editors will discuss the proposal as a collective. If approved, a single editor will handle all the manuscripts in the special issue (including the convener's introduction).
7. Conveners should have contributing authors submit their individual anonymized manuscripts at roughly the same time (within a few days). Authors (not conveners) should submit to Manuscript Central. In their cover letter, authors should signal that the paper is part of a (named) special issue.
8. All papers will be refereed in exactly the same way standard SCG manuscripts are refereed (typically 3 anonymous reviews). One editor will handle all the manuscripts. That editor will not be bound to use referees suggested by conveners.
9. Submitting a manuscript to a special issue does not guarantee acceptance. Papers succeed or fail on their own merits. The Editor's decision is final.
10. If an accepted paper has been waiting in the batch-assignment pile for over 9 months, we may need to dissolve the special issue and publish accepted articles as standalone pieces. This is so that successful, timely authors are not penalized by tardy or unsuccessful papers.
11. Once all of the successful manuscripts have been accepted in final form, the convener(s) will submit an editorial introduction to the issue. The editorial introduction should situate the issue within the relevant academic literature, drawing attention to the significance of, and connections between individual papers, and the broader contributions of the special issue as a whole. A sample introduction can be found [here](#). It should not exceed 4,000 words (including references). This introduction normally will not be refereed, but it will be edited by the editor. This must happen quickly to keep things on schedule.
12. We will publish a maximum of 3 special issues each year.