

Special Issue

Tracing Early Monastic Culture: Books and Authority in New Textual Communities

Message from the Guest Editors

This Topical Collection seeks contributions on textual practices and their role in the development of monastic ideals, particularly relating to authority, in Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages (c. 300–800). Studies on monastic rules, which typically deal with obedience, have a place in this issue, alongside other kinds of texts by early ascetic writers, in which ascetic ideals and ideas of spiritual authority are expressed—for example, in exegetical and hagiographical works. Original research articles are welcome on areas that may include (but are not limited to) the following:

- Textual communities in Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages;
- Early sources (monastic and non-monastic) for Western monasticism and their reappropriation;
- The transmission of the Greek *paideia* and the idea of the monastery as a school;
- Reception of ancient texts, including practices of reading, translating, and rewriting;
- Different ideas and expressions of monastic authority;
- Reinterpretation of philosophical and theological inheritance.

Deadline for **abstract** submission: December 1, 2024

Deadline for **full manuscript** submission: June 1, 2025



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Religions
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
religions@mdpi.com

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Guest Editors

Dr. Andreas Westergren

Centre for Theology and Religious Studies, Lund University, 221 00
Lund, Sweden

Dr. Katarina Pålsson

Centre for Theology and Religious Studies, Lund University, 221 00
Lund, Sweden

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (1 August 2025)





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About the Journal

Message from the Editorial Board

Fresh developments in the disciplines that consistently make significant contributions to our understanding of religious personality, authority, devotion, and community – disciplines ranging from psychology, sociology, and anthropology to history, art history, philosophy, literary criticism, and political science – fuel general, as well as scholarly, interest in the world's religions.

Religions is inviting innovative and comparative contributions. Please consider *Religions* as an exceptional, exciting enterprise ready to reward your trust, attention, and participation.

Editors-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Arndt Büsing

Professorship Quality of Life, Spirituality and Coping, Faculty of Health, Witten/Herdecke University, Gerhard-Kienle-Weg 4, 58313 Herdecke, Germany

Prof. Dr. Klaus Baumann

Caritaswissenschaft und Christliche Sozialarbeit, Theologische Fakultät, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Platz der Universität 3, D-79098 Freiburg, Germany

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manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 24.5 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 4.9 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the second half of 2025).

