



Product Definitions, Purposes, and Parameters

Overview

The JSOU Press publishes a variety of different products depending upon the specifics of the proposed publication. For each publication type, there are specific requirements and elements that need to be included within the manuscript. Additionally, all manuscripts must follow the editorial standards as outlined in both the JSOU Press Manuscript Submission Format Guidance as well as the Chicago Manual of Style, 17th Edition.

Publication Types

Monograph (requires peer review) — A monograph (maximum length of approximately 20,000 words) provides a deep dive into a single topic or aspect of a complex topic. It should include new, original, and thoroughly researched information that fills a gap in the collective knowledge about the topic. A monograph may have more than one author (subject matter experts), but it must focus on one subject and be written for an academic audience.

Edited Volume (requires peer review) — An edited volume is a collection of chapters that presents information related to a common theme. Each chapter is typically written by a different author and should provide original and well-researched insight into a topic that relates to the book's overall theme.

Quick Look (does not require peer review) — A quick look is a very brief (typically 4-8 pages) overview related to key topics of concern and issues of interest within the SOF community/USSOCOM enterprise.

Occasional Paper (requires peer review) — An occasional paper is more in-depth than a quick look, though still considered a shorter publication (typically 10-20 pages). An Occasional Paper must contain original research or perspective and address an academic audience.

Commentary (does not require peer review) — A commentary may be written by one or more author(s) to provide analyses, critical insight, or exposure on a specific topic important to the SOF enterprise. Commentaries may aim to further research through the perspective of the author(s) and be backed by references, examples, and other evidence. Any piece that is primarily opinion in nature, addresses a general audience (describing core functions of SOF as solutions to global problems, for example), is primarily a literature review, or does not include new research will only be considered as commentary.

Special Edition (requires peer review) — A special edition is a submission that does not fall into the above categories yet may still be considered for publication. For those interested in submitting a research proposal and/or completed manuscript that does not fall into the above categories, this work may be featured as a special edition (additional guidance will be provided).

In-House Products

Reference Manual — Reference manuals are produced periodically by JSOU and contain a variety of updated information from sources within USSOCOM.

Research Topics — Annual research topics (previously issued as a booklet) are produced by JSOU and will be published on the JSOU Press website.

Additional Guidance

Printing

In an effort to streamline operations and modernize how the JSOU Press moves forward in publishing its products, all publications will be housed on the [JSOU Press Publications](#) page for ease of access. In moving toward digitization in the form of online dynamic content, the JSOU Press's abilities and resources for printing physical copies is dependent upon a variety of factors and the specifics of the publication. Printed copies will be distributed accordingly and available on-site at the JSOU campus in Tampa, Florida.