

EAS AI Policy

March 2026

As a journal grounded in the humanities, *Early American Studies* values:

- original and innovative research;
- the presentation and interpretation of evidence;
- reproducible and verifiable research and analysis;
- the human craft of writing;
- authorship, ownership, & copyright; and
- responsible stewardship of the earth's environment.

We recognize that AI tools/LLMs can contribute value to scholarly research, including support for data analysis and generating preliminary ideas and bibliographies. We also hold that the use of AI tools/LLMs presents important ethical, methodological, and legal challenges related to authorship, originality, accuracy, and accountability and that it poses significant environmental risks. In light of these opportunities and drawbacks, ***EAS* generally discourages the use of AI and requires complete transparency with the respect to the use of AI tools.**

For Authors:

Authors must clearly and explicitly disclose any use of AI-based tools in the preparation of their manuscript on the submission form and in citations within the manuscript at the point where AI was used. This includes, but is not limited to, the use of AI for text generation, data analysis, image generation or modification, and literature review assistance. Disclosures should address the following:

- The specific tool(s) and prompt(s) used;
- The purpose for which the tool was used; and
- The stage(s) of the research or writing process in which the tool was used.

The use of AI tools must be consistent with principles of scholarly reproducibility and transparency. Authors should provide sufficient detail to allow readers, reviewers, and editors to understand how AI contributed to the work and, where feasible, to reproduce or critically evaluate its role (for example, by providing prompts used). When exact reproduction is not possible, authors should clearly state these limitations.

The use of **basic editorial aids**—such as spelling or grammar checkers—**is permitted and does not require disclosure**, provided these tools are not used to generate

substantive content. When in doubt about whether a tool is a standard editorial aid, authors should reach out to journal staff prior to submitting.

Because AI and LLMs are not legal entities and therefore do not qualify as authors, **authors alone remain fully and solely responsible for the content of their submissions**. This includes accuracy of data, analyses, interpretations, citations, conclusions, and all intellectual property considerations.

Failure to disclose AI use will be treated as a breach of publication ethics. *EAS* reserves the right to withdraw manuscripts from consideration or publication if undisclosed use of AI is identified at any stage of the editorial process—including post-acceptance.

For Reviewers:

In agreeing to review for *EAS*, **reviewers pledge to not input other authors' work into AI tools**. Review reports should also be the original work of the reviewer and not AI.

For Editors:

***EAS* editors will use the same ethical practices around AI that we expect of authors and reviewers.** We commit to the following practices:

- Continuing conversations with the editorial board and Penn Press;
- Remaining current with standards in the field of scholarly editing; and
- Periodically reviewing and revising our policy as needed.