

The Hakluyt Society

Publisher since 1846 of Historical Voyages and Travels



Hakluyt Society Essay Prize

The Hakluyt Society awards annual essay prizes of £1250 to the winning essay, with a second prize of £250 to the runner-up (on occasions one or both prizes maybe shared between entries). The prize or prizes for 2025 will be presented, if possible, at the Hakluyt Society's Annual General Meeting in London in June 2025. Winners will also receive a certificate commemorating their award and a one-year membership of the Hakluyt Society and a copy of their choice of volume from the Society's publications. The Society hopes that once the judging of the 2025 essay prize is completed that the winning essays will be published, either in the Society's online journal or in a recognised academic journal.

Prize winners agree to acknowledge the receipt of their award in any future publication of the prize essays. In addition, they will be expected to contribute to the Society's public dissemination as appropriate. This may include, but is not limited to, presenting a paper at a Hakluyt Society symposium (in which case travel expenses within the UK will be reimbursed) and contributing to the Hakluyt Society blog.

Eligibility criteria

The competition is open to any registered graduate student at a higher education institution (a university or equivalent) or to anyone who has been awarded a graduate degree in the past three years. For an essay to be considered for the prize, confirmation and evidence of the student status of author (as defined above) must be sent at the same time as the essay is submitted. Allowance can be made for any period of career break, e.g., for family care, health reasons or reasons consequent upon the COVID-19 pandemic.

Scope and subject matter

Before considering the submission of an essay, entrants should visit the Hakluyt Society's website (www.hakluyt.com) to make themselves aware of the object of the Society and the scope and nature of its publications. Essays should be based on original research in any discipline in the humanities or social sciences, and on an aspect of the history of travel, exploration and cultural encounter or their effects, in the tradition of the work of the Society. Essays that critically engage with the work of the Society are also welcome.

Essays should be in English (except for such citations in languages other than English as may appear in footnotes) and must be between 6,000 and 8,000 words in length (this includes wordcount in footnotes but excludes the bibliography). An accurate wordcount should be included and overlength essays will not be considered, and the essay must include a bibliography. Illustrations, diagrams and tables essential to the text fall outside the wordcount. Submissions should be unpublished and must include a signed declaration that confirms that the essay has not been submitted for publication elsewhere and will not be

submitted for publication during the judging process (such submission renders the essay ineligible for the prizes).

Submission procedures and deadline

Essays should be submitted as email attachments in Word.doc format to The Administrator at office@hakluyt.com by **1 March 2025**. The subject line of the email should include the words 'HAKLUYT SOCIETY ESSAY PRIZE' and the author's name. By submitting an essay, an entrant certifies that it is the entrant's own original work. Please refer to the **Submission Checklist** below for detailed instructions.

Selection procedure

The Judging Panel encourages innovative submissions that make an important contribution to knowledge, or a critical or methodological contribution to scholarship. The panel and selected reviewers will pay attention to the analytical rigour, originality, wider significance, depth and scope of the work, as well as to style and presentation. The panel comprises selected academic faculty from among past and present members of the Hakluyt Society's Council, including the editorial board of *The Journal of the Hakluyt Society*. The names of the members of the panel will be published on the Hakluyt Society's website.

The Prize Committee reserves the right not to award prizes if no submission is judged to be of sufficient merit. All entrants will receive notification of the outcome of the competition by the end of May 2025 but the Committee regrets that individual feedback on essays cannot be provided.

Style Guide

Use an appropriate font: Times New Roman or Calibri are recommended.

The font of both your text and your footnotes should be in size 12.

All essays must be double-spaced.

You must insert page numbers into your essay.

You must use footnotes for references and include a bibliography.

For all matters of Style in both the essay and bibliography, please follow The Modern Humanities Research Association (MHRA) guide, which can be accessed at: <http://www.mhra.org.uk/pdf/MHRA-Style-Guide-3rd-Edn.pdf>

Submission Checklist (Please include as a separate sheet with your essay)

Please confirm: Your title: Your name: Your postal address: Your email address: Degrees and dates of conferment	
Please confirm your submission includes a bibliography	
Please state word count (excluding bibliography)	
Please confirm that you submitted evidence of your	

student status	
Please confirm that you have included a signed declaration that confirms that the essay has not been published or submitted for publication elsewhere	
Please confirm that your essay does not contain details of your name or academic department	