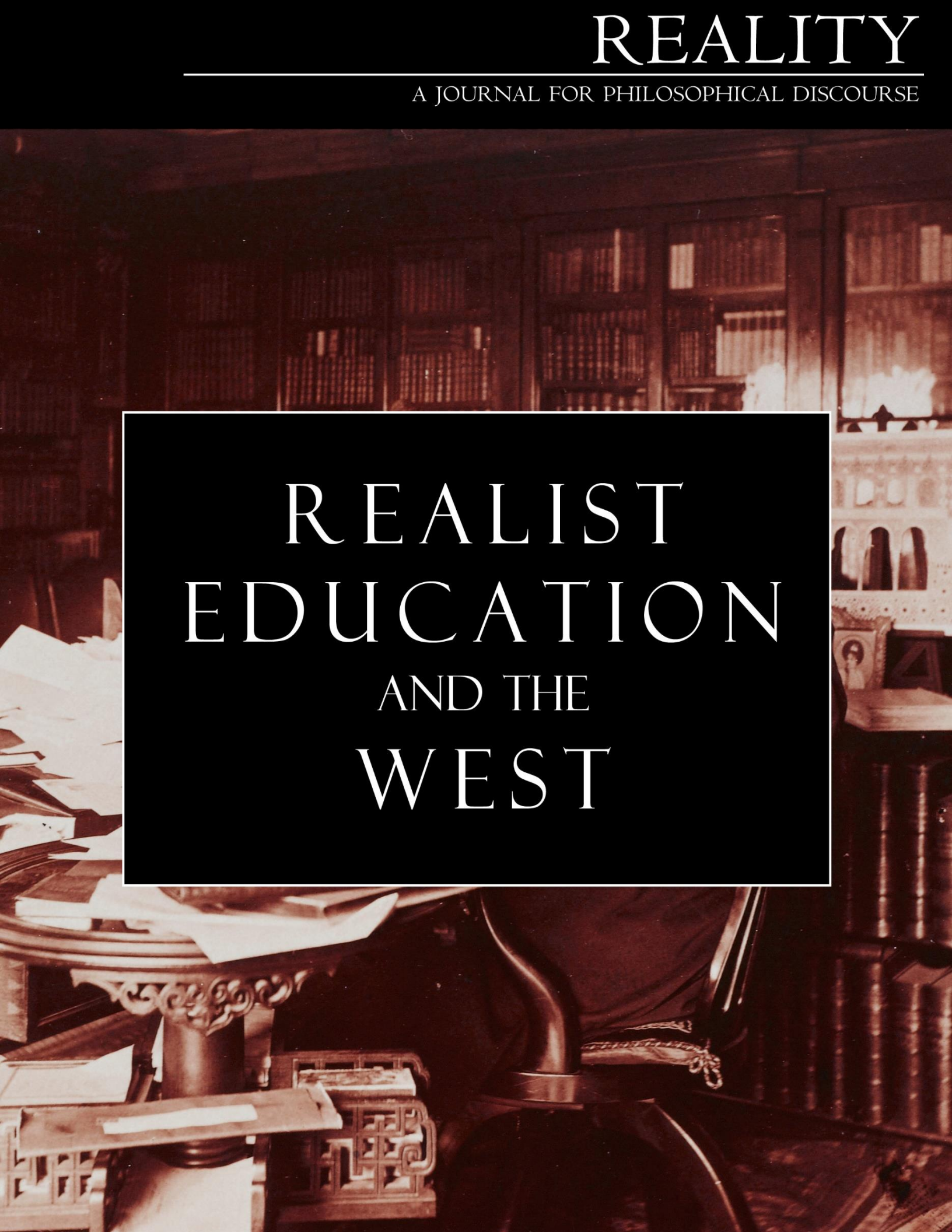


# REALITY

A JOURNAL FOR PHILOSOPHICAL DISCOURSE



## REALIST EDUCATION AND THE WEST

# CFP: Realist Education and the West

## Summary:

The struggle for Western civilization has always been intertwined with a true education. One of the defining features of Western civilization from its roots has been an emphasis on the ability of the human person not only to understand the good but to act for it. Historically, this has involved an education in the liberal arts with an emphasis on virtue, through which the common good of Western societies has been pursued. But as the traditions constituting Western civilization have been abandoned, so too the orientations towards a true education in the classical sense. Students are no longer taught arts that liberate the mind, but only those that enable their employment, and “virtue” is ignored as an impediment to material comfort. Worse still, the majority of remaining liberal arts departments only masquerade as such, offering instead a myriad of hyper-modern ideologies that are inherently anti-realist by design. A liberal arts department that actually engages with the Western tradition, aims to teach reality over subjective constructs, and cares to impart virtue upon its students is an exception, rather than the rule. With the rarity of such programs that cut against the grain, it is becoming increasingly tempting for the conservative-minded to abandon higher education altogether, specifically the liberal arts. While the lack of an education seems preferable to hyper-modern indoctrination, might the treatment be worse than the disease? Unfortunately, when faced with a choice between no liberal arts education whatsoever versus a counterfeit one, the consequence is the same: the common good is no longer pursued and the civilization is disintegrating.

So to renew a sense of education, we must ask: what is the essence of the educational tradition? How do we reclaim it today?

**Deadline: 15 December 2021**

## Suggested topics:

- What distinguishes classical, Western education (the true liberal arts) from modern education?
- How does education serve society overall, and more specifically, what human needs are served by the liberal arts?
- How have the liberal arts in their current state strayed from what they should be?
- Can a true higher education be restored? What steps need to be taken to make this a reality?
- What is lacking in a modern, utilitarian education interested only in “practical matters”?

## Reviewer suggestions:

If you have in mind a good critical reviewer of your work—someone who can provide a thoughtful engagement of the material—feel free to include this recommendation in your submission. Alternatively, if you cannot submit an Article but would be interested in volunteering to review, please let us know.

## Submission Guidelines

**Length:** 8,000-15,000 words. We understand length restrictions as guidelines. If an article is a few hundred words over or under—or even a thousand—this will not be cited as a reason for rejection. If it is considerably under, we may suggest publication as an Essay; if considerably over, we may suggest publication as a multi-part piece.

**Footnotes:** all references must be placed in footnotes; submissions containing endnotes will not be accepted. Bibliographic sourcing and footnote formatting should be done according to Chicago Style, although the editors recommend the practice of historical layering (including date of composition in all footnotes, rather than date of the particular version's publication). We also insist that the full title of the work be given in the first footnote and abbreviated titles in all subsequent (i.e., no citations of date alone).

**Abstract:** all submissions must contain an abstract of between 150-400 words. This facilitates the evaluation process for Editors.

**Keywords:** it is recommended that Article submissions contain 5-10 keywords sometime before publication. If the submission is received without a list of keywords, an Editor will request them before the Article is published.

More details about Reality can be found at <https://realityjournal.org>

Please send all submissions to [editors@realityjournal.org](mailto:editors@realityjournal.org).