**Submitting a Book Proposal**

If you would like to submit your proposal by email, please check with the appropriate editor before doing so, as different editors have different submission requirements and review schedules. The guidelines below offer general suggestions for the preparation of publication proposals, but you should check with the editor by sending an inquiry first. The inquiry, which may be sent by post or email, should simply describe the project, the author, and the reasons for writing the book- in a few paragraphs. Do not send actual manuscripts, sample chapters, or attachments with images to editors unless you are specifically invited to do so.

[List of editors and their subject areas.](https://mitpress.mit.edu/acquisitions-staff)

In preparing your proposal, bear in mind that The MIT Press needs to know as much as possible about your book, including its scope, its intended audience, and how we can promote the book to that audience. We also need to be convinced that you can present what you have to say in a way that will be useful, interesting and important to your readers.

Your proposal should generally include the following four items:

1. A **prospectus** describing your intentions.
2. A detailed **table of contents**.
3. Two to four **sample chapters** that demonstrate the clarity and precision of your prose and the appeal of your expository strategy. (Check with individual editor first.)
4. An up-to-date **curriculum vita** or resumé.

**1. The Prospectus**

The prospectus should include the following:

* Brief Description
  + In one or two paragraphs, describe the work, its rationale, approach and pedagogy.
* Outstanding Features
  + List briefly what you consider to be the outstanding, distinctive or unique features of the work.
* Competition
  + Consider the existing books in this field and discuss their strength and weaknesses, individually and specifically. This material is written for reviewers and not for publication, so please be as frank as possible. You should describe how your book will be similar to, as well as different from, the competition in style, topical coverage, and depth. If significant books are now available, you should explain why you choose to write another book in this area. Please mention all pertinent titles, even if they compete only with a part of your book.
* Apparatus
  + Will the book include examples, cases, questions, problems, glossaries, bibliography, references, appendices, etc.?
  + Do you plan to provide supplementary material (solutions, answers, workbook, laboratory manual or other material) to accompany the book?
* Audience
  + For whom is the book intended (the lay public, professionals, students, etc.)?
  + In what discipline or disciplines?
  + Is it primarily descriptive or quantitative, elementary or rigorous, etc.?
  + Prerequisites, if any (mathematical level, any applicable)?
* Authors
  + Provide relevant information about your research, professional qualifications, or other aspects of your background. What makes you the right person (or the right author team) to write about this topic?
* Market Considerations
  + What kind of person will buy the book, and why? What new information will the book give them to justify its cost?
  + What is your estimate of the total market for the book?
  + If you are aware of professional organizations or mailing lists that would be useful in promoting the book, please mention them.
* Status of the Book
  + What portion of the material is now complete?
  + When do you expect to have your manuscript completed?
  + What is the planned length of the book in words?
  + How many and what figures (drawings, half-tones, charts, etc.) do you plan to include?
* Reviewers
  + We may use reviewers of our own choice, but we will also try to include some whose opinion you feel will be valuable. Please suggest a few and clarify your relationship (if any) with each person suggested. If the book has several distinct markets, try to recommend at least one reviewer for each.
  + Naturally, we do not reveal the names of our reviewers without their permission. If you desire, we will submit the material to the reviewers anonymously.

**2. Table of Contents**

The table of contents should be complete and detailed. Explanatory notes should be included as necessary. This enables the reviewers to understand the structure and content of the manuscript.

**3. Sample Chapters**

If you are invited to submit sample chapters, they should be in sufficiently good condition to allow a valid assessment of your capability, but they need not be in final form. You should include rough sketches of all necessary figures. Ideally, about one-fourth of the work should be submitted, but the chapters need not be in sequence. It is advisable to submit any chapter that is particularly innovative. The material submitted should reflect your writing style and pedagogy in the best possible light.

**4. Curriculum Vita**

If requested, supply a curriculum vita outlining your education, previous publication and professional experience.

**Suggested Reading for Nonfiction Authors**

Rabiner, Susan and Alfred Fortunato, *Thinking Like Your Editor: How to Write Great Serious Nonfiction—and Get it Published* (Norton, 2003). Advice from an experienced book editor and literary agent on how to write a proposal and a manuscript that will appeal to editors at trade publishing houses as well as at university presses.

Germano, William, *Getting it Published: A Guide for Scholars and Anyone Else Serious About Serious Books, third edition* (University of Chicago Press, 2016). Written for academic authors seeking publication by university presses, this is a helpful overview of the entire publication process with advice for approaching publishers, negotiating a contract, surviving the peer review process, and other matters.

Thinking Like Your Editor: How to Write Great Serious Nonfiction—and Get It Published," authored by publishing industry veterans Susan Rabiner and Alfred Fortunato, serves as a comprehensive guide for writers aiming to navigate the competitive landscape of nonfiction publishing. The book, published by W. W. Norton & Company in 2002, offers practical advice from the perspective of an experienced book editor and a literary agent, demystifying the process of getting serious nonfiction from manuscript to market.

At its core, the book advises aspiring authors to adopt the mindset of an editor. This involves understanding that a compelling writing style alone is often insufficient for securing a publishing deal.[[1](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQEDsRbTzQaOY6UntzlmgKrrlb05HVRaIskvr-dLlLb6BaACDvFhwOYrQtZ0Nd3ATmfyglumz00oFotCzBuVt41J1IjZBQTckVJXBS0_RYJGVbK3LdsrQyNHwBoV4JuzH_HGgFh1tvexwR4%3D)] Instead, the authors emphasize the paramount importance of a book's central argument and its potential audience.[[1](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQEDsRbTzQaOY6UntzlmgKrrlb05HVRaIskvr-dLlLb6BaACDvFhwOYrQtZ0Nd3ATmfyglumz00oFotCzBuVt41J1IjZBQTckVJXBS0_RYJGVbK3LdsrQyNHwBoV4JuzH_HGgFh1tvexwR4%3D)] The mantra "audience, audience, audience" is a key takeaway, highlighting the market-driven realities of the publishing industry.[[1](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQEDsRbTzQaOY6UntzlmgKrrlb05HVRaIskvr-dLlLb6BaACDvFhwOYrQtZ0Nd3ATmfyglumz00oFotCzBuVt41J1IjZBQTckVJXBS0_RYJGVbK3LdsrQyNHwBoV4JuzH_HGgFh1tvexwR4%3D)]

Rabiner, a former editorial director at Basic Books and senior editor at Oxford University Press and Pantheon Books, and Fortunato, a freelance editor and writer, distill their extensive experience into actionable advice.[[2](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQF9qy0ciE1F5N_MMhlKoQluXG0gJ6wSc9OnjJix_zrCCHqPWCtDlZXk1bYBq_vsmdEVFWmxfxXCt2ovCCUAmQsSsdNidJqiV4IN-RJ_29L9fP47kl_bUY1HbPw7p_3SlTXkMw0LzhtNEEir_U5b9dS_MVNCtYCZQ-Lh5vC08l7_6xyXjENKeuaaNwNo2Wr2)][[3](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQF50vW8YOajD-yMo2c56HP4E55kz2m7b7CU1jV5zapYSuP2Xn1ZSGIRO_HVEiYwjRibtIyzts_cAVn7WxU8ydq6ISCjxIo9JwJdT7AKxqZ5ndeIrcUsudLFAHzDbsFv4taXgLZ2YoW3nvdpvhhQuqSDWicOhB6ttaC8Pemo0QWYBDV1alu70QMhCttdpr7OROjcugJuvUMZhS2W7Z3siRO8IUCNnmxSiz9mBKRiDzD9RtBizqGZNrxK_vyoVFblgMq-jtWyvG2nmOtDm-kwuQdej9cP3z-7Ca0BfrsBV334BPFjPEP5NwVrQcB90CSjsUzh5oKysLxcOiAoppf6WgpwPlRIhew5)] Their collaboration provides a dual perspective that covers both the editorial and agenting sides of the business. The book is lauded for its straightforward and encouraging tone, offering a behind-the-scenes look at the corporate publishing world.[[3](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQF50vW8YOajD-yMo2c56HP4E55kz2m7b7CU1jV5zapYSuP2Xn1ZSGIRO_HVEiYwjRibtIyzts_cAVn7WxU8ydq6ISCjxIo9JwJdT7AKxqZ5ndeIrcUsudLFAHzDbsFv4taXgLZ2YoW3nvdpvhhQuqSDWicOhB6ttaC8Pemo0QWYBDV1alu70QMhCttdpr7OROjcugJuvUMZhS2W7Z3siRO8IUCNnmxSiz9mBKRiDzD9RtBizqGZNrxK_vyoVFblgMq-jtWyvG2nmOtDm-kwuQdej9cP3z-7Ca0BfrsBV334BPFjPEP5NwVrQcB90CSjsUzh5oKysLxcOiAoppf6WgpwPlRIhew5)][[4](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQHWzBOZmmTgbPA1NR9KcNAjr8aykXHioSmLv48wzqZmKjOh9UCAPNCfCMHbS6GY9LcMsuSxqpSQCD-Pwt6b8qEmRspn7eXxDJaevpk6ZcZlgg0p7fhQBUFIypfzaCuHC7Qsw5ulu5HpsqcmTAFWS4gK)]

**Key insights and strategies offered in the book include:**

* **Crafting a compelling proposal:** The authors dedicate significant attention to writing a book proposal that will capture an editor's interest.[[1](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQEDsRbTzQaOY6UntzlmgKrrlb05HVRaIskvr-dLlLb6BaACDvFhwOYrQtZ0Nd3ATmfyglumz00oFotCzBuVt41J1IjZBQTckVJXBS0_RYJGVbK3LdsrQyNHwBoV4JuzH_HGgFh1tvexwR4%3D)][[2](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQF9qy0ciE1F5N_MMhlKoQluXG0gJ6wSc9OnjJix_zrCCHqPWCtDlZXk1bYBq_vsmdEVFWmxfxXCt2ovCCUAmQsSsdNidJqiV4IN-RJ_29L9fP47kl_bUY1HbPw7p_3SlTXkMw0LzhtNEEir_U5b9dS_MVNCtYCZQ-Lh5vC08l7_6xyXjENKeuaaNwNo2Wr2)] This includes answering five key questions in every proposal and understanding what makes a proposal irresistible.[[2](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQF9qy0ciE1F5N_MMhlKoQluXG0gJ6wSc9OnjJix_zrCCHqPWCtDlZXk1bYBq_vsmdEVFWmxfxXCt2ovCCUAmQsSsdNidJqiV4IN-RJ_29L9fP47kl_bUY1HbPw7p_3SlTXkMw0LzhtNEEir_U5b9dS_MVNCtYCZQ-Lh5vC08l7_6xyXjENKeuaaNwNo2Wr2)][[3](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQF50vW8YOajD-yMo2c56HP4E55kz2m7b7CU1jV5zapYSuP2Xn1ZSGIRO_HVEiYwjRibtIyzts_cAVn7WxU8ydq6ISCjxIo9JwJdT7AKxqZ5ndeIrcUsudLFAHzDbsFv4taXgLZ2YoW3nvdpvhhQuqSDWicOhB6ttaC8Pemo0QWYBDV1alu70QMhCttdpr7OROjcugJuvUMZhS2W7Z3siRO8IUCNnmxSiz9mBKRiDzD9RtBizqGZNrxK_vyoVFblgMq-jtWyvG2nmOtDm-kwuQdej9cP3z-7Ca0BfrsBV334BPFjPEP5NwVrQcB90CSjsUzh5oKysLxcOiAoppf6WgpwPlRIhew5)] A sample of a successful proposal is even included to provide a concrete example.[[1](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQEDsRbTzQaOY6UntzlmgKrrlb05HVRaIskvr-dLlLb6BaACDvFhwOYrQtZ0Nd3ATmfyglumz00oFotCzBuVt41J1IjZBQTckVJXBS0_RYJGVbK3LdsrQyNHwBoV4JuzH_HGgFh1tvexwR4%3D)][[5](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQEtlAokD-JT2L1MrzzecmWi_99c4qhmlxOFaqGP_kPlgzXNkqFRG8-5qA4OpcIy2F3TqdFpl1s3oJp_Ctk80DnF67dZ55_XHhwR1hw9WmL0kEGFJzVXHeVnetM75Qv6xPqUDwwY6fU%3D)]
* **Appealing to a broad readership:** A crucial piece of advice is learning how to adapt academic or specialized writing for a general audience without sacrificing intellectual depth.[[2](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQF9qy0ciE1F5N_MMhlKoQluXG0gJ6wSc9OnjJix_zrCCHqPWCtDlZXk1bYBq_vsmdEVFWmxfxXCt2ovCCUAmQsSsdNidJqiV4IN-RJ_29L9fP47kl_bUY1HbPw7p_3SlTXkMw0LzhtNEEir_U5b9dS_MVNCtYCZQ-Lh5vC08l7_6xyXjENKeuaaNwNo2Wr2)][[3](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQF50vW8YOajD-yMo2c56HP4E55kz2m7b7CU1jV5zapYSuP2Xn1ZSGIRO_HVEiYwjRibtIyzts_cAVn7WxU8ydq6ISCjxIo9JwJdT7AKxqZ5ndeIrcUsudLFAHzDbsFv4taXgLZ2YoW3nvdpvhhQuqSDWicOhB6ttaC8Pemo0QWYBDV1alu70QMhCttdpr7OROjcugJuvUMZhS2W7Z3siRO8IUCNnmxSiz9mBKRiDzD9RtBizqGZNrxK_vyoVFblgMq-jtWyvG2nmOtDm-kwuQdej9cP3z-7Ca0BfrsBV334BPFjPEP5NwVrQcB90CSjsUzh5oKysLxcOiAoppf6WgpwPlRIhew5)] The principle of "simple structure, complex ideas" is presented as a foundational concept for achieving this balance.[[2](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQF9qy0ciE1F5N_MMhlKoQluXG0gJ6wSc9OnjJix_zrCCHqPWCtDlZXk1bYBq_vsmdEVFWmxfxXCt2ovCCUAmQsSsdNidJqiV4IN-RJ_29L9fP47kl_bUY1HbPw7p_3SlTXkMw0LzhtNEEir_U5b9dS_MVNCtYCZQ-Lh5vC08l7_6xyXjENKeuaaNwNo2Wr2)][[3](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQF50vW8YOajD-yMo2c56HP4E55kz2m7b7CU1jV5zapYSuP2Xn1ZSGIRO_HVEiYwjRibtIyzts_cAVn7WxU8ydq6ISCjxIo9JwJdT7AKxqZ5ndeIrcUsudLFAHzDbsFv4taXgLZ2YoW3nvdpvhhQuqSDWicOhB6ttaC8Pemo0QWYBDV1alu70QMhCttdpr7OROjcugJuvUMZhS2W7Z3siRO8IUCNnmxSiz9mBKRiDzD9RtBizqGZNrxK_vyoVFblgMq-jtWyvG2nmOtDm-kwuQdej9cP3z-7Ca0BfrsBV334BPFjPEP5NwVrQcB90CSjsUzh5oKysLxcOiAoppf6WgpwPlRIhew5)]
* **The power of a strong introduction:** The book underscores the critical role of the introduction in hooking both editors and readers.[[2](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQF9qy0ciE1F5N_MMhlKoQluXG0gJ6wSc9OnjJix_zrCCHqPWCtDlZXk1bYBq_vsmdEVFWmxfxXCt2ovCCUAmQsSsdNidJqiV4IN-RJ_29L9fP47kl_bUY1HbPw7p_3SlTXkMw0LzhtNEEir_U5b9dS_MVNCtYCZQ-Lh5vC08l7_6xyXjENKeuaaNwNo2Wr2)][[3](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQF50vW8YOajD-yMo2c56HP4E55kz2m7b7CU1jV5zapYSuP2Xn1ZSGIRO_HVEiYwjRibtIyzts_cAVn7WxU8ydq6ISCjxIo9JwJdT7AKxqZ5ndeIrcUsudLFAHzDbsFv4taXgLZ2YoW3nvdpvhhQuqSDWicOhB6ttaC8Pemo0QWYBDV1alu70QMhCttdpr7OROjcugJuvUMZhS2W7Z3siRO8IUCNnmxSiz9mBKRiDzD9RtBizqGZNrxK_vyoVFblgMq-jtWyvG2nmOtDm-kwuQdej9cP3z-7Ca0BfrsBV334BPFjPEP5NwVrQcB90CSjsUzh5oKysLxcOiAoppf6WgpwPlRIhew5)]
* **Focusing on fresh arguments:** Rabiner and Fortunato argue that smart editors often prioritize new and compelling arguments over simply well-written prose.[[2](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQF9qy0ciE1F5N_MMhlKoQluXG0gJ6wSc9OnjJix_zrCCHqPWCtDlZXk1bYBq_vsmdEVFWmxfxXCt2ovCCUAmQsSsdNidJqiV4IN-RJ_29L9fP47kl_bUY1HbPw7p_3SlTXkMw0LzhtNEEir_U5b9dS_MVNCtYCZQ-Lh5vC08l7_6xyXjENKeuaaNwNo2Wr2)][[3](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQF50vW8YOajD-yMo2c56HP4E55kz2m7b7CU1jV5zapYSuP2Xn1ZSGIRO_HVEiYwjRibtIyzts_cAVn7WxU8ydq6ISCjxIo9JwJdT7AKxqZ5ndeIrcUsudLFAHzDbsFv4taXgLZ2YoW3nvdpvhhQuqSDWicOhB6ttaC8Pemo0QWYBDV1alu70QMhCttdpr7OROjcugJuvUMZhS2W7Z3siRO8IUCNnmxSiz9mBKRiDzD9RtBizqGZNrxK_vyoVFblgMq-jtWyvG2nmOtDm-kwuQdej9cP3z-7Ca0BfrsBV334BPFjPEP5NwVrQcB90CSjsUzh5oKysLxcOiAoppf6WgpwPlRIhew5)] They also suggest that publishers are often looking for authoritative takes on topics that have already generated public interest.[[5](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQEtlAokD-JT2L1MrzzecmWi_99c4qhmlxOFaqGP_kPlgzXNkqFRG8-5qA4OpcIy2F3TqdFpl1s3oJp_Ctk80DnF67dZ55_XHhwR1hw9WmL0kEGFJzVXHeVnetM75Qv6xPqUDwwY6fU%3D)]
* **Building a positive author-editor relationship:** The book provides guidance on fostering a productive and respectful relationship with an editor, a crucial aspect of the publishing journey.[[1](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQEDsRbTzQaOY6UntzlmgKrrlb05HVRaIskvr-dLlLb6BaACDvFhwOYrQtZ0Nd3ATmfyglumz00oFotCzBuVt41J1IjZBQTckVJXBS0_RYJGVbK3LdsrQyNHwBoV4JuzH_HGgFh1tvexwR4%3D)]
* **The importance of thorough research:** The authors highlight the necessity of meticulous research to ensure the accuracy and credibility of a nonfiction work.[[1](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQEDsRbTzQaOY6UntzlmgKrrlb05HVRaIskvr-dLlLb6BaACDvFhwOYrQtZ0Nd3ATmfyglumz00oFotCzBuVt41J1IjZBQTckVJXBS0_RYJGVbK3LdsrQyNHwBoV4JuzH_HGgFh1tvexwR4%3D)]

"Thinking Like Your Editor" is widely regarded as an invaluable resource for writers of serious nonfiction, covering genres from history and science to business and philosophy.[[2](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQF9qy0ciE1F5N_MMhlKoQluXG0gJ6wSc9OnjJix_zrCCHqPWCtDlZXk1bYBq_vsmdEVFWmxfxXCt2ovCCUAmQsSsdNidJqiV4IN-RJ_29L9fP47kl_bUY1HbPw7p_3SlTXkMw0LzhtNEEir_U5b9dS_MVNCtYCZQ-Lh5vC08l7_6xyXjENKeuaaNwNo2Wr2)][[3](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQF50vW8YOajD-yMo2c56HP4E55kz2m7b7CU1jV5zapYSuP2Xn1ZSGIRO_HVEiYwjRibtIyzts_cAVn7WxU8ydq6ISCjxIo9JwJdT7AKxqZ5ndeIrcUsudLFAHzDbsFv4taXgLZ2YoW3nvdpvhhQuqSDWicOhB6ttaC8Pemo0QWYBDV1alu70QMhCttdpr7OROjcugJuvUMZhS2W7Z3siRO8IUCNnmxSiz9mBKRiDzD9RtBizqGZNrxK_vyoVFblgMq-jtWyvG2nmOtDm-kwuQdej9cP3z-7Ca0BfrsBV334BPFjPEP5NwVrQcB90CSjsUzh5oKysLxcOiAoppf6WgpwPlRIhew5)] It has received praise from numerous publishing professionals and acclaimed authors, with some considering it a "gold standard" for aspiring nonfiction authors.[[3](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQF50vW8YOajD-yMo2c56HP4E55kz2m7b7CU1jV5zapYSuP2Xn1ZSGIRO_HVEiYwjRibtIyzts_cAVn7WxU8ydq6ISCjxIo9JwJdT7AKxqZ5ndeIrcUsudLFAHzDbsFv4taXgLZ2YoW3nvdpvhhQuqSDWicOhB6ttaC8Pemo0QWYBDV1alu70QMhCttdpr7OROjcugJuvUMZhS2W7Z3siRO8IUCNnmxSiz9mBKRiDzD9RtBizqGZNrxK_vyoVFblgMq-jtWyvG2nmOtDm-kwuQdej9cP3z-7Ca0BfrsBV334BPFjPEP5NwVrQcB90CSjsUzh5oKysLxcOiAoppf6WgpwPlRIhew5)][[4](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQHWzBOZmmTgbPA1NR9KcNAjr8aykXHioSmLv48wzqZmKjOh9UCAPNCfCMHbS6GY9LcMsuSxqpSQCD-Pwt6b8qEmRspn7eXxDJaevpk6ZcZlgg0p7fhQBUFIypfzaCuHC7Qsw5ulu5HpsqcmTAFWS4gK)] The book is recommended for anyone seeking to understand the inner workings of the publishing industry and to increase their chances of not only getting published but also reaching a wide audience.

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William Germano's *Getting It Published: A Guide for Scholars and Anyone Else Serious About Serious Books* is a widely respected and comprehensive guide for academic authors seeking to navigate the often-opaque world of scholarly publishing.[[1](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQFNyh7XCjiRGlvvlmJKezwhcBn-faR5QxE8LyqAWPrtlEWK-cH_qzDvU3vwX5pht7LqR-E8uJw8-bRWfcdaiWswtt1y5Q4ljzt7f9EcrMWA9cfBqnkun67h7HLnaCOX1jxJClA1-F7lCdXNQJupNS5mhOunmoBP5tXsA7Rlu9M%3D)] Now in its third edition, the book provides a detailed roadmap of the entire publication process, from crafting a compelling book proposal to negotiating contracts and understanding the peer review system.

The author, William Germano, brings a wealth of experience to the subject. He has held high-level editorial positions at prestigious academic publishers, including serving as editor-in-chief at Columbia University Press and vice-president and publishing director at Routledge.[[2](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQFGi4Ym7FLCuue5vUfrqRvi1cJtQMJyABxu8Mf7_nmq01R3QOHUux1czhQekpc43dbi6_EkMiDBCdMmB7NTHQnJRskzaq24O9H5OQQ-xbImfPkokp5FhrXYnaJJ8nXlXltZnZuOAsYSDoxf1B3Z7Ek%3D)][[3](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQGl_hZgNAIlaGlV8tspoC2mXI-f-5zA_R5hwLeqvqQHlU5FIYyt0kKLt3mq_bj4Mpk936mhHPQQebqBjCseuMN4YWksccLUi4c98T6YZX3gUjxc0VeVU8j8gGsDP1FfUQ%3D%3D)] This insider's perspective allows him to demystify the publishing industry for scholars, explaining not just *how* it works, but *why* it works the way it does.[[4](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQGP5TrZtJLP02vB8P4zOM17p5WRAUJcLicf6ZtF27HOyneFuWZca2CNtLGIkr_KfTn4I-7gNHQ-54DfDCv7fcgyy03Thoeqh3QR1rm_sWBvYgAfKQU1TAlVOkj-WstbxuW5uLiSbya9nmjCrvW54dB2LCyegEqf42dHFgahbFGmN0ManvcCFLw6iOeYxwU%3D)] Germano is also a professor of English literature, giving him a deep understanding of the challenges and goals of academic writers.[[2](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQFGi4Ym7FLCuue5vUfrqRvi1cJtQMJyABxu8Mf7_nmq01R3QOHUux1czhQekpc43dbi6_EkMiDBCdMmB7NTHQnJRskzaq24O9H5OQQ-xbImfPkokp5FhrXYnaJJ8nXlXltZnZuOAsYSDoxf1B3Z7Ek%3D)][[5](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQHmDo2IP1drxIQ5wecj4O5D8of_-OyT2g3ObYtXh7Wshwu6LhwmvNAE9C_0Ma6189bauz3S7yiqnMNUQaCjI6kMtuCaS4bw0844NL7ZRGMcCw9KQ0SF5JO239OZ_O7BWJ8Owfh4HsyiNOWTc76x3DRhmju5f_WGuO8%3D)]

A central argument of the book is that scholars must think beyond simply writing a good manuscript; they need to consider their audience and the marketability of their work.[[3](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQGl_hZgNAIlaGlV8tspoC2mXI-f-5zA_R5hwLeqvqQHlU5FIYyt0kKLt3mq_bj4Mpk936mhHPQQebqBjCseuMN4YWksccLUi4c98T6YZX3gUjxc0VeVU8j8gGsDP1FfUQ%3D%3D)][[6](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQHBUocITuBrmfSBnz9AGU4TTrqpobE7xzY86iM-HjcorIwkER9Sgo5a_wBupguBPZqOq27HeVjaFhbul8Zq2fwAwMyBFmZehGBiIJQiv_eGGmkinNyUnkAQK-I3QdvVAvuL9BZPHT-1ASqadfs_QpOZUnq3s4pxvX-bFRW6oHiartAqPcwwTEqS6-MPHZ0%3D)] Germano emphasizes the importance of writing with a clear argument and a specific readership in mind, and he provides practical advice on how to frame a project to be attractive to publishers.[[7](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQEY5NLM1gIbehy8KbvtwaC_ypItdUgOxSzRAGQCGxIVKo8-YU-n4VAMZaC_O2_SUZj9t4IRJ9YXlxW60bvcVbbRxrVCF5bf_Kw6lZnV5gC2Tu2lo28DuhxC2v1k9_1ChI4xqtjXe1DXOq8MITJkQecdcawQjqJ-T-rkK88Dy05_)]

The third edition has been updated to address the evolving landscape of academic publishing, including the rise of digital publishing, e-books, and open-access models.[[3](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQGl_hZgNAIlaGlV8tspoC2mXI-f-5zA_R5hwLeqvqQHlU5FIYyt0kKLt3mq_bj4Mpk936mhHPQQebqBjCseuMN4YWksccLUi4c98T6YZX3gUjxc0VeVU8j8gGsDP1FfUQ%3D%3D)][[6](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQHBUocITuBrmfSBnz9AGU4TTrqpobE7xzY86iM-HjcorIwkER9Sgo5a_wBupguBPZqOq27HeVjaFhbul8Zq2fwAwMyBFmZehGBiIJQiv_eGGmkinNyUnkAQK-I3QdvVAvuL9BZPHT-1ASqadfs_QpOZUnq3s4pxvX-bFRW6oHiartAqPcwwTEqS6-MPHZ0%3D)] It offers guidance on current best practices for submitting proposals and discusses the advantages and disadvantages of these newer publishing avenues.[[3](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQGl_hZgNAIlaGlV8tspoC2mXI-f-5zA_R5hwLeqvqQHlU5FIYyt0kKLt3mq_bj4Mpk936mhHPQQebqBjCseuMN4YWksccLUi4c98T6YZX3gUjxc0VeVU8j8gGsDP1FfUQ%3D%3D)][[6](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQHBUocITuBrmfSBnz9AGU4TTrqpobE7xzY86iM-HjcorIwkER9Sgo5a_wBupguBPZqOq27HeVjaFhbul8Zq2fwAwMyBFmZehGBiIJQiv_eGGmkinNyUnkAQK-I3QdvVAvuL9BZPHT-1ASqadfs_QpOZUnq3s4pxvX-bFRW6oHiartAqPcwwTEqS6-MPHZ0%3D)]

Key topics covered in the book include:

* **Developing a strong book proposal:** Germano offers detailed advice on what editors are looking for in a proposal and how to make a compelling case for a book project.
* **Finding the right publisher:** The book provides strategies for identifying and approaching the most suitable university presses or other scholarly publishers for a particular manuscript.
* **Navigating the peer review process:** Germano explains the purpose and mechanics of peer review, helping authors to understand and respond to reviewer feedback.
* **Understanding and negotiating contracts:** The guide walks authors through the key elements of a publishing contract.
* **Working with publishing professionals:** It provides insights into collaborating effectively with editors, designers, and marketing staff.[[4](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQGP5TrZtJLP02vB8P4zOM17p5WRAUJcLicf6ZtF27HOyneFuWZca2CNtLGIkr_KfTn4I-7gNHQ-54DfDCv7fcgyy03Thoeqh3QR1rm_sWBvYgAfKQU1TAlVOkj-WstbxuW5uLiSbya9nmjCrvW54dB2LCyegEqf42dHFgahbFGmN0ManvcCFLw6iOeYxwU%3D)]

*Getting It Published* is praised for its clear, witty, and encouraging tone.[[1](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQFNyh7XCjiRGlvvlmJKezwhcBn-faR5QxE8LyqAWPrtlEWK-cH_qzDvU3vwX5pht7LqR-E8uJw8-bRWfcdaiWswtt1y5Q4ljzt7f9EcrMWA9cfBqnkun67h7HLnaCOX1jxJClA1-F7lCdXNQJupNS5mhOunmoBP5tXsA7Rlu9M%3D)][[4](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQGP5TrZtJLP02vB8P4zOM17p5WRAUJcLicf6ZtF27HOyneFuWZca2CNtLGIkr_KfTn4I-7gNHQ-54DfDCv7fcgyy03Thoeqh3QR1rm_sWBvYgAfKQU1TAlVOkj-WstbxuW5uLiSbya9nmjCrvW54dB2LCyegEqf42dHFgahbFGmN0ManvcCFLw6iOeYxwU%3D)] It is considered an essential resource for graduate students, junior faculty, and any scholar looking to publish a serious nonfiction book.[[4](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQGP5TrZtJLP02vB8P4zOM17p5WRAUJcLicf6ZtF27HOyneFuWZca2CNtLGIkr_KfTn4I-7gNHQ-54DfDCv7fcgyy03Thoeqh3QR1rm_sWBvYgAfKQU1TAlVOkj-WstbxuW5uLiSbya9nmjCrvW54dB2LCyegEqf42dHFgahbFGmN0ManvcCFLw6iOeYxwU%3D)][[8](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQGbaDu758ljiG4ewifXFFaSd3VrC64zZnhvA3eVTz1Y534eIXHSiB2LwMwaNnPpiyjd4kK0iPaGptGEU0Yvg6PsD6x7SSiWjpyasEl02shSkSR8BAxN1tiZyVNywEwcLD2Phnn-InwG)] While its primary audience is academic authors, the advice on writing proposals and understanding the publishing business can be valuable for authors of serious nonfiction in general.[[8](https://www.google.com/url?sa=E&q=https%3A%2F%2Fvertexaisearch.cloud.google.com%2Fgrounding-api-redirect%2FAUZIYQGbaDu758ljiG4ewifXFFaSd3VrC64zZnhvA3eVTz1Y534eIXHSiB2LwMwaNnPpiyjd4kK0iPaGptGEU0Yvg6PsD6x7SSiWjpyasEl02shSkSR8BAxN1tiZyVNywEwcLD2Phnn-InwG)] The book is often recommended alongside Germano's other work, *From Dissertation to Book*, which focuses specifically on the process of revising a doctoral thesis for publication.

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