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Lt. Col. Zachary Griffiths, U.S. Army

To prepare for the next war, the Army needs professional discourse. The Army is renewing its military journals to be ready for the challenges ahead.

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The Origins of Professional Journals, 1878–1910

Dr. J. P. Clark

Writing is a great way for individuals to make sense of the problems they face while also contributing to potential solutions. While Army leadership strives to revitalize professional journals, their predecessors had the additional burden of creating these initial venues for professional discourse.

22 **Muddy Boots and Powerful Pages**

Why We Write

Sgt. 1st Class Leyton Summerlin, U.S. Army

Why would a muddy-boot-wearing warfighter be inclined to write? Writing is a powerful self-development tool, unparalleled in its ability to clear one's thoughts and hone ideas. The more one undergoes the writing and refining process, the more one develops the skill of concise communication.

43 **From PME to Publication**

Maj. Brennan Deveraux, U.S. Army

Maj. Gordan Richmond, U.S. Army

Important ideas can spring from professional military education (PME) writing assignments that deserve a wider audience. With some forethought and a few alterations, any PME student can and should publish one of their assigned writing projects as a professional article.

51 **Rewriting**

The Secret to Writing Well

Trent J. Lythgoe, PhD

To transform an article from a rough draft to a polished manuscript—something that editors will want to publish, and people will want to read—authors must adopt a rewriting process: revising, editing, and proofreading to strengthen and clarify writing.

60 **With All Due Respect**

How to Foster Dissent in the U.S. Army

Lt. Col. Matthew Jamison, U.S. Army

The presence of healthy dialogue and debate about military matters is key to critical thinking, shows that all perspectives have value, and supports the effectiveness of military units. Dissent must be presented effectively based on context.

FOR INDIVIDUALS

27 **How to Write an Article**

Capt. Theo Lipsky, U.S. Army

One way to give life to an idea is to write about it. The author provides a how-to guide for writing a commentary article for publication.

35 **How to Write a Book Review**

Lt. Col. Zachary Griffiths, U.S. Army

Book reviews benefit the Army profession and the Army professional. Given that more books are published than can possibly be read, reviews provide concise, critical summaries of important books for the busy professional.

FOR UNITS

65 **Building and Running an Online Forum**

Lt. Col. Erik Davis, U.S. Army

Lt. Col. Nick Frazier, U.S. Army

Online forums promote collaboration across both time and space, making it easier for everyone to engage. They expose a diverse audience to varying opinions, create a safe environment for controversial ideas, and provide a place to debate the arguments posed by others in articles.

Professional Military Writing Special Edition

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70 Catalyst Papers

A Practical Writing Style for Army Leaders to Share Ideas

Lt. Col. D. Max Ferguson, U.S. Army

Catalyst papers are a distinct approach to writing Army white papers that encourages all ranks to share observations from the field, introduce suggestions, and examine lessons learned in a relaxed writing style.

76 How to Develop and Run a Unit Writing Program

Lt. Col. Jay Ireland, U.S. Army

Maj. Ryan Van Wie, U.S. Army

A unit's leadership can develop and incentivize professional writing in their organization to cultivate subordinate communication skills, set reasonable writing goals, mentor authors through the submission process, and incentivize writing across the formation.

82 Speech

It's a Technique

Maj. George J. Fust, U.S. Army

Like writing, speech can be a deliberate professional development tool in a unit program to provide an option for renewing and encouraging professional discourse. It is a universal mechanism for transmitting ideas: it can inspire, spark creativity, and appeal to those of the next generation turned off by traditional mediums.

WHEN PUBLISHING

88 Writing Is a Team Sport

How to Find and Write with a Coauthor

Maj. Brennan Deveraux, U.S. Army

Capt. Leah Foodman, U.S. Army

Coauthoring is a great way to reduce unease about writing and distribute the workload, but it has its fair share of challenges that authors must account for to succeed.

94 A Writer's Guide to Giving and Receiving Feedback

Capt. Rebecca Segal, U.S. Army

The feedback process is critical to achieving quality writing. Feedback can come at any step along the writing process, from brainstorming to writing to editing, but there is an art to giving and receiving feedback.

100 Your Draft Is Done, Now What? Working with an Editor

John Amble

A professional editor describes the editorial process and how an author can get the most out of that process, make it smooth and efficient, and be confident that when the article is published, it will be at its best.

106 Building a Community

How to Create a Professional Writing Network

Lt. Col. Nathan K. Finney, PhD, U.S. Army

Professional writing, no matter the profession, is a group project. From idea generation to a first draft, through revisions and into the publishing process, every step of the way includes the men and women around you. An article will always be improved by engaging a community in its crafting.

111 Punctuation Mark

Article Selection by Professional Publications

Col. Todd Schmidt, PhD, U.S. Army

Col. William Darley, U.S. Army, Retired

The editor in chief and the managing editor of Military Review offer advice on what professional military journals look for during the process of article selection for publication.