But since the publication of Scribner and Cole’s foundational research, writing research studies in religious or faith contexts have received much less attention than disciplinary, academic, and professional contexts.

Given that many people are involved in faith communities and/or ritual or other religious practices and the import of such practices in contemporary society, this Special Issue will feature original, empirical writing research in these areas, by both new and established writing scholars. We seek diverse perspectives addressing writing in a wide variety of faith traditions.

Contributions might include, but are not limited to, methodologically rigorous studies that examine questions such as:

- What does it mean to write – and to learn to write – in communities of faith?
- How is literacy defined and practiced in ritual, religion, and faith communities?
- What discursive conventions are operative in ritual, faith communities, and religious practice and how do they change over time?
- What kinds of relations obtain between image and text in ritual, faith communities, or religious practice?
- How are social roles, objects, and spaces rhetorically constructed in ritual, faith communities, or religious practices?
- How are writing technologies understood and deployed in ritual, faith communities, and religious practice? Do such practices suggest new ways of understanding writing technologies?
- What new methods or objects of study does research in religious contexts require or invite?
- What ethical issues face researchers -- those inside as well as those outside faith communities -- as they study ritual, faith, and religious practices?
We are looking for submissions that present empirical work, broadly defined. Manuscripts that are critiques of religion or religious practices are not appropriate.

Submissions for the Special Issue will be considered through September 1, 2014 or until a suitable number of publishable manuscripts have been identified.

Articles published in *Written Communication* will collectively represent a wide range of methodologies, but the methodology of each study must be handled expertly and articulated clearly. Theoretical and applied contributions must be made explicit and relevant to researchers, theorists, and educators from a range of scholarly disciplines.

**Guidelines for Submission:**

Prospective authors are strongly urged to acquaint themselves with previously published issues of the journal. Please include a cover letter indicating that the work reported has not been previously published, that the piece - in present or revised form - is not being considered for publication in other venues, and that the author(s) will not allow the manuscript to be so considered before notification in writing of an editorial decision by *Written Communication*. Authors should also indicate in their cover letter that they would like the submission to be considered for the special issue.

Submissions must follow the guidelines of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th edition) and should not exceed 9,000 words (including all appendices, tables, and references). Manuscripts that do not use APA style and conventions or manuscripts that far exceed the 9,000-word maximum may be turned back without review.

If research data are collected from human subjects, such data must be collected in accordance with the standards and guidelines of the human subjects review board (or equivalent body) at the author’s or authors’ home institution. Indicate compliance with human subjects guidelines both in your cover letter and in the manuscript itself.

All authors should (a) include with each copy an abstract of 100-150 words; (b) select 5-7 keywords (which do not appear in the title) to facilitate electronic search; and (c) provide a cover page which includes the title of the submission, author names(s), institutional affiliations(s), email address(es), and 2- to 3-sentence biographical statements for each author.

Author name(s) should not appear anywhere else in the manuscript or the file properties. The entire manuscript should use 8.5” x 11” size paper and be double-spaced, including the abstract, block quotations, tables, figures, notes, and references.

For all submissions: Send an electronic version of the manuscript and any supporting documents as Word documents (.doc or .docx) in email attachments to writtencomm@umn.edu. Reminder: all documents and files should be free of information about authors and their institutions.


The deadline for submitting a manuscript is September 1, 2014 or until a suitable number of publishable manuscripts have been identified. All papers should be submitted to: writtencomm@umn.edu