

Feminist Economics
MANUSCRIPT DECISION CATEGORIES: REFERENCE SHEET
December 2016

Reject: Appropriate recommendation for papers that authors need to start over in order to make them acceptable for *Feminist Economics* and for papers we do not want to encourage for resubmission. Where appropriate, cover letters can provide information about how authors may rework their papers to be appropriate for submission as a new paper.

Reject and Resubmit: Appropriate recommendation for any paper we would be interested in seeing again but that needs such substantial work it is not on a clear path to acceptance. This recommendation category should be used for the vast majority of papers that need substantial reworking, as it helps avoid giving the wrong signal to authors who might not be able to bring the paper up to a publishable standard (for instance, if the statistics or conceptual framework needs to be substantially reworked). Additionally, since R&R is a “reject” decision, we are at liberty to bring in a new reviewer if the paper is resubmitted. Cover letters may include strongly encouraging language if we very much want to see a resubmission.

Major Revisions: Appropriate recommendation for papers that need substantive revisions but are on a clear path to acceptance. There should be no doubt that the authors will be able to make the needed changes (and that the conceptual framework and empirical methods are sound). This decision is also appropriate for papers where various minor revisions recommended by several reviewers add up to a major amount of needed work. As this is a conditional “accept” decision, we should make every effort to use the same reviewers for future versions of the paper. Papers that receive this decision are still subject to re-review.

Minor Revisions: Appropriate recommendation for papers in which the revisions are sufficiently superficial that the revision will not be sent out again for peer review. Authors receiving a minor revisions decisions typically do not expect to be required to make substantive revisions, even if these are called for in the reviews. Therefore, if substantive work is needed, a major revisions recommendation is more appropriate.

Accept subject to style editing/final editorial review: Appropriate recommendation for papers that have truly met all revision requests. Please do not use it for papers that still have problems in organization, length, or other detailed issues, as authors who receive it are then informed that any remaining matters will be dealt with in the final editorial review and style-editing phase. Our aim is to minimize revisions of complexity or magnitude in that phase.

Decision Cover Letters: Please note that we have developed a number of cover letter templates for each decision category. In cases when associate editors feel that substantial encouragement should be given to authors, regardless of the decision category, please recommend that such wording be included in cover letters. For example, for authors who receive the “Reject and Resubmit” decision, we have templates that are encouraging and hopeful but do not imply that the paper is clearly destined for publication.