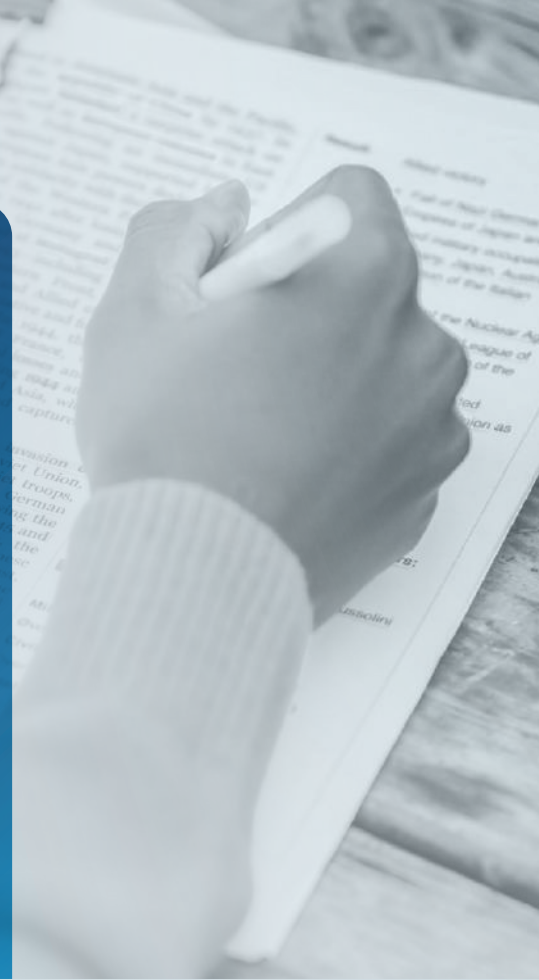


# NOT ALL PUBLICATIONS ARE CREATED EQUAL.

Let's take a closer look at student research publication quality.



## What makes a research publication credible?

To be recognized in academia such as in college application, a publication should be:



### Peer-reviewed

(reviewed by experts)



### Indexed

(searchable in major scientific databases)



### Impact-factor rated

(journal rating for quality)

## Understanding the Standards of Academic Research Publication:

A comparison of common student publication types and journal criteria

Publication Criteria	IRI Students' Publications	Common Student Publications
Peer-reviewed	Yes - All articles undergo rigorous peer review	Many are student-led reviews, private-label, pre-prints or news articles
Indexed	Yes - Indexed in recognized academic databases	Often not indexed or archived only on limited platforms or websites
Journal Impact Factor (JIF)	JIF range from <b>0.1 to 2.7</b>	Typically no formal impact factor
Research Mentorship	Direct mentorship with university faculty; students contribute to research with real-world relevance	May be led by candidates, PhDs or other less experienced mentors

Here's a quick look at examples listed on peer institution websites where their students have published, followed by examples from IRI-NC. These are presumably among the top examples from organizations.



### Where Peer Institutions' Students Publish:

- **International Social Science Conference For Youth**  
– Academic conference for student presentations; not a journal
- **The World Financial Review**  
– commentary outlet, not a peer-reviewed research journal
- **Tech in Asia** – news website, not a journal
- **Brown Journal of World Affairs** – Student-run journal, no formal impact factor
- **Redwood Scholastic**  
– student publication with limited indexing, no impact factor
- **Yale Review of International Studies**  
– undergraduate student publication
- **Stanford Intersect** – undergraduate student publication
- **Yale China Hands** – student-led publication
- **The Journal of European Psychology Students**  
– student publication



### Where IRI Students Publish:

- **World Journal of Biology Pharmacy and Health Sciences**  
– A peer-reviewed, indexed journal with a journal impact factor of 0.2
- **Journal of Advances in Medicine and Medical Research**  
– A peer-reviewed, indexed journal with a journal impact factor of 0.1
- **Journal of Asthma and Allergy** – A peer-reviewed, indexed journal with a journal impact factor of 2.7
- **Stats** – A peer-reviewed, indexed journal with a journal impact factor of 1.2



## 3 Steps on How to Determine if a Publication is Credible:



### 1. Is it peer-reviewed?

Google the name of the journal. The journal should clearly say "peer-reviewed," not a pre-print or student publication and not a news article.



### 2. Is it archived?

Go to scholar.google.com. Select 'Articles' under the hamburger to the left. Type the name of the journal in quotations. If you find many articles published in that journal, it is indexed or archived.



### 3. Is it impact-factor rated?

Go to Google and type site:wos-journal.info followed by the journal name

For example: *site:wos-journal.info International Journal of Health Science*

Or, *site:exaly.com* followed by the journal name in quotation marks.

For example: *site:exaly.com "Stats"*

Click on the first search result to see whether the journal has an impact factor. An impact factor above 0.0 indicates that the journal has scholarly credibility.

Explore published papers from IRI students

