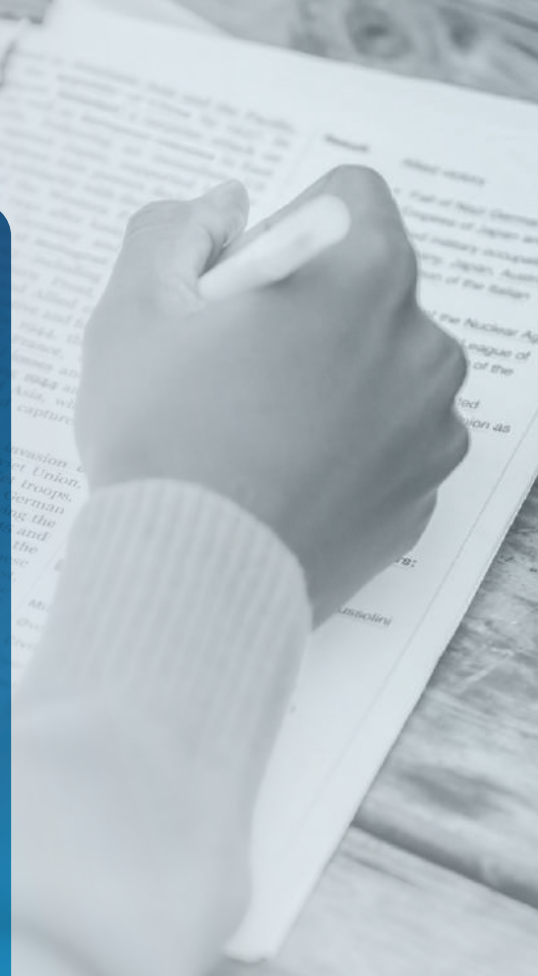


NOT ALL PUBLICATIONS ARE CREATED EQUAL.

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 0.1 to 2.7 | 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: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

