

Referee Guidelines



The principle purpose of a referee review is to provide editors with unbiased and educated advice needed to reach a decision about a submission. Each review should include comments for the editor and comments for the author. Referees are strongly encouraged to provide detailed suggestions. Comments made to the author and on the article itself will be given to the author, but the identity of each referee remains completely confidential. JUR reserves the right to edit a referee's report (if, for example, offensive language was used) before sending revision suggestions to the author. To expedite the peer-review process, we ask that referees avoid unnecessary harshness, inappropriate language, and incomplete suggestions in their comments.

Ideally, the review should be comprised of a completed referee checklist, comments on the submission itself using track changes or anonymous comment tools, and should address the following concerns:

- What audience would be interested in reading the submission/will JUR's readers be interested in the content?
- Is the article appropriate for an undergraduate publication?
- Should the author(s) provide any additional information, tables, figures, or data in the submission?
- Does the submission represent outstanding undergraduate work that deserves to appear in print?
- Is the submission original/does it make an original argument?
- What would strengthen the submission?
- Did the author provide the necessary citations in the submission? Were they fair to authors of previous literature?
- Are there any concerns about the submission?

Referees should be aware that unpublished submissions are confidential and content cannot be disclosed outside of contact with the assigned editor.

JUR is committed to providing authors with prompt editorial decisions and publications; to achieve that goal, we rely heavily on the expediency and effectiveness of referees. We ask that referees respond to an editor's request to review within one week and that both editor and referee meet deadlines.

JUR's peer-review process is double-blind; authors and reviewers are never informed of each other's identities. Any conflict of interest regarding assigned submissions **MUST** be brought to the editor's attention (including knowledge of the author's identity or details of the work that are not formally revealed).

Checklists will be provided to the referee when they receive the article.