

JMURJ Screening Criteria

The *JMURJ* Editorial Board uses the following criteria to ensure that all *JMURJ* submissions are oriented toward research and scholarship and accessible to an academic audience before asking faculty experts to review them.

We have indicated below where we have questions or have identified opportunities for revision in your submission and have offered specific suggestions. Authors who attend to these suggestions may resubmit their work for further review by the *JMURJ* Editorial Board.

Authorship <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Did a JMU undergraduate student or team of JMU undergraduate students create the submission?	If NO , reject.
Permissions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If human subjects were used in the project, does the student have the approval of the Institutional Review Board?• If the project contains copyrighted material, is it properly cited, paid for, and/or used with the permission of the owner?	If NO , reject or return to author.
Length <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If the submission is primarily text-based, is it 2,000–6,000 words (excluding any abstract, notes, and the Works Cited/References/Bibliography page)?• If the submission is not primarily text-based, can it be viewed, heard, or otherwise appreciated in a reasonable time?	If NO , reject or return to author.
Content <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Whether the submission is primarily text-based or not, does the submission—or a component of the submission—foreground the research involved?• If the submission is more scholarship-oriented, is the approach to the scholarship evident, appropriate, and credible?• Does the scope of the research match the purpose of the work?	If NO , reject or return to author.

Accessibility

- Is the content presented in a way that readers from a diverse academic university audience can understand?
- Considering the multidisciplinary audience, does the submission as a whole avoid or limit unnecessarily complex or difficult discipline-specific language?

Methodology

- Is it clear that there is a purpose that leads to a discovery or that there is an application of knowledge?
- Is it clear that the submission engages appropriate primary and/or secondary sources that inform its purpose?
- Does the submission discuss, apply, and/or analyze the source material, or does it seem to be simply presented?

Organization & Cohesion

- Is it clear that the sections are relevant and do they seem to flow?
- Is it clear that the organization effectively supports the purpose and presentation of the submission?
- Is it clear that there is a conclusion that convincingly presents the evidence and argument or provides a framework for additional research or further scholarly work?

Readability

- Does the submission consistently display a mature command of language through vocabulary, syntax, grammar, and punctuation?
- Are there consistent mechanical errors that are significant obstacles for comprehension or readability?
- Can the audience easily read and understand the figures, tables, and images?