## What is Peer Review?

Peer Reviewed Journals also called Refereed or Scholarly Journals, are journals that before accepting an article for publication, require that the article is read and edited by a volunteer group of subject experts.

These experts (might be) unaware of who has written the article and are checking to ensure that the information contained within the article can be substantiated by the research that was carried out.

After reviewing the article, the team of experts then recommends that the article be accepted, rejected or revised and resubmitted. All articles accepted for publication are expected to meet certain standards or levels of discipline within the field of study.

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## A Note on Peer Reviewed Journals?

Not all items published in a journal that is listed as peer reviewed will in fact be peer reviewed. In general, journals receive the peer reviewed classification, but individual items within the journals do not.

Works within the articles that required a certain level of scholarly effort, namely research articles and results of experiments, will be peer reviewed. In a journal labeled as peer reviewed the following items do not undergo the review process:

- Book reviews
- Letters to/ from the editor
- Opinion pieces
- Commentaries
- Introductions/ Prefaces

Please keep this in mind when limiting to peer reviewed journals in a library databases; you will limit your search to only journals that have a peer review process, but your results will include items which have not been peer reviewed.