

Types of Periodicals Defined

What does it mean when an article or publication is *scholarly* or *peer-reviewed*?

Peer-reviewed

A *scholarly journal* that requires an article to be subjected to a process of critical evaluation by one or more experts on the subject, known as referees, responsible for determining if the subject of the article falls within the scope of the publication and for evaluating originality, quality of research, clarity of presentation, etc. Changes may be suggested to the author(s) before an article is finally accepted for publication. Some bibliographic databases allow search results to be limited to peer-reviewed journals. Peer-reviewed is synonymous with *juried* and *refereed*.

What is the difference between a journal and a magazine?

Journal

A periodical devoted to disseminating original research and commentary on current developments in a specific discipline, sub discipline, or field of study (*example: Journal of Clinical Epidemiology*), usually published in quarterly, bimonthly, or monthly issues sold by subscription. Journal articles are usually written by the person (or persons) who conducted the research. Longer than most magazine articles, they almost always include a bibliography or list of works cited at the end. In journals in the sciences and social sciences, an abstract usually precedes the text of the article, summarizing its content. Most scholarly journals are peer-reviewed.

Magazine

A popular interest periodical usually containing articles on a variety of topics, written by various authors in a nonscholarly style. Most magazines are heavily illustrated, contain advertising, and are printed on glossy paper. Articles are usually short (less than five pages long), frequently unsigned, and do not include a bibliography or list of references for further reading.


What is a trade or professional journal?


A periodical devoted to disseminating news and information of interest to a specific category of business or industry, often published by a trade association.

Which YC databases include scholarly and/or peer-reviewed (juried or refereed) articles?

- EBSCOhost databases including:
 - Health Source: Consumer Edition
 - Health Source: Nursing/Academic Edition
 - MAS Ultra - School Edition
 - Professional Development Collection
- ProQuest including:
 - Alt Press Watch
 - ProQuest Research Library

Is there some way to determine if a publication is peer-reviewed?

- Use UlrichsWeb, which is found in the library's list of databases.
 - Search by publication title.
 - Look for this symbol , which indicates the publication is refereed.

 [American Journal of Psychology](#) University of United States 0002-9556 1887 Active USD 160.0
Illinois Press

Definitions excerpted from Reitz, Joan M. "ODLIS: Online Dictionary for Library and Information Science." *ODLIS: Online Dictionary for Library and Information Science*. 2004. Libraries Unlimited. 14 Feb. 2005 <<http://lu.com/odlis/>>.

Typical Characteristics of Types of Periodicals				
	Newspapers	Popular Magazines	Trade Journals	Scholarly and Research Journals
Examples	Wall Street Journal New York Times Christian Science Monitor Arizona Republic	People Sports Illustrated Newsweek Time Rolling Stone	Physics Today American Archaeology RN American Libraries	JAMA Journal of Professional Nursing American Literature American Historical Review Lancet
Purpose	Current information; Upcoming and past events; Editorials; Obituaries; Classified Ads; Columns	Hot topics; Current events; Interviews; Documents popular culture	Current trends and news in a particular field of study; Employment; Book reviews; Business connections	Original research; Refereed or peer reviewed; Depth of knowledge about the subject; Bibliography; Professional authors
Language	Non-technical; Written for a general audience	Non-technical; Written for a general audience	Jargon; Written for practitioners	Academic; Technical; Specific for the discipline
Authors	Journalists; Freelance writers	Journalists	Practitioners in the field	Researchers; Scholars; Academics
Sources	Rarely cites sources	Rarely cites sources	Brief bibliographies	Extensive bibliographies
Publishers	Commercial Publisher	Commercial Publisher	Professional Association	Universities; Research organizations
Graphics	Photos; Ads (matte); Political Cartoons	Glossy photos; Ads	Photos; Ads; Charts	Graphs; Charts; Formulas; Usually no Ads
Access Tools	Lexis-Nexis Academic; Individual indexes (like paper indexes or their website); Microfilm/fiche	ProQuest Research Library; EBSCOhost; Readers Guide; SIRS Researcher; Individual indexes (can be published yearly by the magazine or found on their website)	ProQuest Research Library; EBSCOhost; Other databases with access to specific trade journals	ProQuest Research Library; EBSCOhost; Other databases with access to journals

Inspired by: Gradowski, et al. 'Types of Periodicals.' Designs for Active Learning. Chicago: ACRL, 1998.