

WHAT IS A SCHOLARLY JOURNAL?

Your instructor has asked you to find an article in a journal, a scholarly journal, a professional journal, a refereed journal, (different terminology for basically the same thing). This is contrasted with a popular magazine. No clear-cut definition can be given but the following are some clues to help you distinguish between them.

Criteria	Scholarly Journal	Magazine	Trade Publications
Author*	Expert (scholar, professor, researcher, etc.) in field covered. Author nearly always named.	Journalist; layperson Sometimes author is not named or may not be a scholar.	Business or industry representative. Sometimes author is not named.
Notes*	Usually includes notes and/or bibliography.	Few or no references or notes.	Few or no notes or bibliographic references.
Contents	News and research from the field.	Current events general interest.	Business or industry information (trends, products, techniques).
Style	Written for experts, uses technical language.	Journalistic, written for average reader.	Written for people in the business or industry using technical language.
Audience	Scholars or researchers in the field.	General public.	People in the business or industry.
Review & Editing	Usually reviewed by an editorial board of outside scholars (referees).	Reviewed by one or more persons employed by magazine.	Reviewed by one or more editors employed by the magazine.
Appearance	More sedate look; mostly print.	Glossy, many pictures in color.	Glossy, with many pictures in color.
Ads	Few or none; if any, usually for books or professional materials.	Many, often in color.	Some, often in color.
Frequency	Usually monthly or quarterly.	Usually weekly or monthly.	Usually weekly or monthly.
Examples	<i>Developmental Psychology</i> (published by the American Psychological Association).	<i>Rolling Stone</i> (commercially published).	<i>Monitor on Psychology</i> (published by the American Psychological Association).

A scholarly journal cannot be defined by one or two features nor do all features have to be present to make it a journal. Look for a majority of the traits listed above (those with an * are the most important). If in doubt, ask your instructor or a librarian.

Library of Congress Classification System

A	General Works
B	Philosophy, Psychology, Religion
C	History: Auxiliary Sciences
D	History: General, Europe, Africa, Asia, and Oceania
E	History: U.S.
F	History: Local U.S., Canada, and Latin America
G	Geography, Anthropology, Recreation
H	Social Sciences
J	Political Science
K	Law
L	Education
M	Music
N	Fine Arts
P	Language and Literature
Q	Science
R	Medicine
S	Agriculture
T	Technology and Engineering
U	Military Science
V	Naval Science
Z	Bibliography and Library Science

Books normally are located on the following floors according to the first letter of the call number:

A - H	3rd Floor, Love Library
J - P	4th Floor, Love Library
Q - Z	5th Floor, Love Library

Periodicals are located on the following floors by the first letter of the call number:

Current Periodicals A-Z	1st Floor, Love Library
Bound Periodicals A-Z (1986-current)	1st Floor, Love Library
Bound Periodicals A-Z (pre-1986)	5th Floor, Love Library