



Scholarly Journals vs. Popular Magazines

When conducting research, scholars often rely on articles from scholarly journals rather than popular magazines. See the table below for a list of some differences that exist between these two types of resources.

Characteristics	<u>Scholarly Journal</u>	<u>Popular Magazine</u>
Appearance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sober and serious • May contain graphs or charts • Will <i>not</i> find glossy pages or photographs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attractive appearance • Advertisements • Heavily illustrated • Glossy paper
Audience	Scholars and students	General audience
Authors	Scholars in the field of study	Reporters, usually not experts on the subject
Documentation	Sources cited in footnotes and/or bibliography	Sources not cited or cited informally
Purpose	Report results of original research or experimentation	Provide general information
Article Acceptance Procedure	Many scholarly journals are "refereed journals" - they undergo a process called "peer-review" where other scholars in the field examine the articles before being published.	Written by hired reporters, edited by magazine editors, and published.
Examples	 <i>American Journal of Psychology</i> <i>Journal of the American Medical Association</i> <i>American Quarterly</i>	 <i>Psychology Today</i> <i>Newsweek</i> <i>National Geographic</i>

It is generally expected that student's essays and assessments will be relying on scholarly journals and similar academic sources.

(Information online at <http://library.duke.edu/services/instruction/libraryguide/scholarlyjournal.html>)