



Library Guide

The Good News and the Bad News about Finding Scholarly Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles!

THE BAD NEWS

A list of scholarly peer-reviewed journals owned by SAU Library does not and will not exist!!

The GOOD NEWS

There are relatively painless ways to identify these elusive documents. Use any one or more of the 4 methods below. Use the checklists under each method to evaluate the article title / journal title.

Method #1: If I have the bibliographic citation and abstract.

- The article title has a scholarly, academic tone.
- The article title describes the subject matter of the article.
- The article title is not catchy, cute, short, or “popular” in nature.
- The article is relatively long; usually 4 or more pages.
- The journal title may contain the words journal, review, quarterly, or research.
- The periodical is issued 4 times a year or less.
- I selected “peer-reviewed” while searching the database.
- The author of the article is provided.

Method #2: If I have the entire journal article.

- The author’s credentials are listed. The author(s) are usually researchers or scholars in their field.
- There is a bibliography.
- The article begins with an abstract.
- The article discusses original research or experimentation.
- The author writes in the language of the discipline. Terms and basic topics are not defined.
- The author is often affiliated with a university or research center.
- Any illustrations are either graphs or charts.

Method #3: If I have the entire paper issue of journal containing the article.


- The cover has a serious, sober look.
- There are few if any glossy color pictures.
- Advertisements are rare. Any advertisements cover academic services or scientific products.
- Often, but not always, the journal is published by a scholarly professional organization.
- The main purpose of the journal is to report original research or experiments in order to make such information available to the rest of the scholarly world.
- There are instructions for manuscript submission. The directions state that identification of the author must be removed from the manuscript.

Method #4: Refer to *Ulrich's Periodicals Directory* or *Magazines for Libraries*.

- *Ulrich's Periodicals Directory* contains information for many periodicals. The information provided for each title includes the intended audience. It is located in the Reference Collection: Call #: Ref 050 U45 2004

Look in the index of volume 4 under the title of the periodical. A right arrow to the left of the title indicates a "refereed" journal. This is the type of journal needed for your Psych 100 assignment.

Example:

-  J A M A: The Journal of the American Medical Association (USA ISSN 0098-7484) 5293
- J A M A: The Journal of the American Medical Association (Chinese Edition) see Meiguo Yixuehui Zazhi (Zhongwen Ban) 5324
- J A M A: The Journal of the American Medical Association (Italian Edition) (ITA ISSN 0393-554X) 5293

▼ new title

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● electronic media

 refereed

- *Magazines for Libraries* also lists information for many periodicals. It also is located in the Reference Collection. The Call # is: Ref 050.25 M189 2004. Look in the index under the title of the periodical. Refer to the item number for the periodical and find the entry. Within the entry you will find "Refereed" listed after the address if the journal is indeed refereed.