

Scholarly vs. Popular At a Glance

Scholarly Articles...

- are signed by the author
- are written by experts or specialists
- include the author's credentials
- may begin with an abstract
- contain citations and lengthy bibliographies
- report on new research and scholarship
- contain specialized language and jargon
- are refereed (lengthy editorial review process involving several critics)
- can be lengthy

Popular Articles...

- may or may not be signed
- may be written by a non-expert
- may or may not include credentials
- do not begin with an abstract
- do not usually cite references
- may not involve research
- are written for the general public
- are reviewed only by an editor
- are mostly brief

Scholarly Journals...

- have plain covers
- published by an association, scholarly press
- are distributed to a specific audience
- may have continuous pagination (page numbers) throughout the year
- contain few, focused advertisements, if any
- may publish an annual index, as well as being indexed by indexing services

Popular Magazines...

- have glossy eye-catching covers
- are published for profit by large publishing houses
- are published for the general public
- restart pagination with each issue
- contain frequent, large advertisements directed at general audiences
- may be indexed by indexing services

Helpful Resources

- *Ulrich's International Periodical Directory*, ref Z6941 U49 1997. Contains bibliographic information for most serials published including an index to refereed journals. Also available in electronic format as **Ulrich's Web**.
- Many online periodical databases, such as *EBSCOHost Academic Search Premier*, allow for limiting a search to only refereed or peer-reviewed articles and journals.