

Identifying Scholarly Journals:

Sometimes in life you find yourself in a situation you have to find a scholarly journal. So when you find an article, how can you tell if it is scholarly? Scholarly journals are often referred to as Peer Reviewed Journals and Refereed Journals. But, what does all of this mean? Well, when an article is submitted to a Peer Reviewed Journal, the editor sends several copies to experts in the field. These experts, peers to the original author review the article and make sure it meets the standard scholarship in the field. Scholarly journals can be identified by their look, unlike other journals that are filled with large headlines and pictures that grab your attention. Scholarly journals can also be kind of boring, almost if they do not want you to notice them, but might come consent to read them if you are really interested. Online, it's harder to tell the difference because the usual cues are not always there. Scholarly journals and popular magazines can look very similar, but there are several things you can look for that say scholarly journal. These include being written by expert authors, abstract, very long; contain bibliography, containing a methodology section and having data, charts, and tables that have results.

Here, we have an article on measuring subprime lending in neighborhood foreclosures. You can see the source here is the Urban Affairs Review. This certainly sounds like a scholarly article, but is it? Let's check our criteria. From the article, I can see that both these authors are affiliated with institutions: one university and the other research institute. The author affiliations are also available on the first page. And if it is not available on the first page, you'll be able to find it at the end of the article and in this case actually describes the authors positions in the institutions with which they work. Then we look for page length and it's not uncommon for a scholarly article to be more than 20 pages in length. This one happens to be 28 pages, which is certainly long enough for a scholarly journal.

Another key element of scholarly journal articles is they have a list of sources consulted or a bibliography. Now, there are several journals that include long essays by respected scholars that do not have citations in them. Whether they can't as a scholar or not will depend on their situation or what the professor may think. These are very well written but they're not generally peer reviewed in the way we discussed before and instead being edited by an editor. And they do not usually contain original research, like this type of article here.

Next, we look for a section of the article that explains the research methodology that tells a little bit about what they're trying to do and how they went about doing it. So, if you can find it here in this article, this article has a lot of tables and charts and diagrams with data through which conclusions are based. It is important in spelling article in arts of humanities are not usually driven by numbers sending ground discussion of peer reviewed paradigms. They're usually described as historical events or work arts such as play, literature as opposed to numbers, so you won't find data in arts and humanities as often. If after doing your analysis of these factors and is still not sure, you can go to their all works and periodical directory and you can search for your journal title. So, in this case the journal was the Urban Affairs Review and we search for that name, we will see this little referee jersey here icon and this means it is a refereed journal. In most cases it only takes a few minutes to determine if an article is scholarly or not. You just need to look for the author's credentials, check for abstract, make sure the article seems long, look for citations or a bibliography and finally check to see if the research

methodology is theoretical framework and look for data to support the conclusions. Most of the time, they will give you enough info to make a determination, but you check all works if you're still unsure.