



## Scholarly Journals vs. Popular Magazines

When conducting research, scholars prefer articles from scholarly journals rather than popular magazines. The table below lists some differences between these two types of resources.

<u>Characteristics</u>	<u>Scholarly Journal</u>	<u>Popular Magazine</u>
<b>Appearance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sober and serious</li> <li>• May contain graphs or charts</li> <li>• Few glossy pages or photographs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attractive appearance</li> <li>• Advertisements</li> <li>• Heavily illustrated</li> <li>• Glossy paper</li> </ul>
<b>Audience</b>	Scholars and students	General audience
<b>Authors</b>	Scholars in the field of study	Journalists who are usually not experts on the subject
<b>Documentation</b>	Sources cited in footnotes and/or bibliography	Sources not cited or cited informally within the text
<b>Purpose</b>	To report results of original research or experimentation	To provide general information
<b>Article Acceptance Procedure</b>	Most scholarly journals are refereed journals and the articles are peer reviewed before they are published.	Articles are written by hired reporters, edited by magazine editors, and then published.

A **refereed journal** has a structured reviewing system in which at least two reviewers, excluding in-house editors, evaluate each unsolicited manuscript and advise the editor whether to accept or reject it. The **peer review process** helps ensure that the published articles reflect solid scholarship in their fields.

### Citation Information

An article citation consists of the author and title of the article, the name, date, volume and issue number of the journal in which the article was published, beginning and ending page numbers of the article, and sometimes an abstract or summary of the article.