The Peer-Review Process

ACC Library Services
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Peer-Review is a Process

It indicates high quality journals like:

- Journal of the American Medical Association
- Lancet
- American Journal of Sociology
- Journal of Modern Literature
Peer-Reviewed Journals

...are the best ones to use for your research because:

- Their articles have been approved by experts in the field (peer scholars)
- Their articles always cite their sources
- You can use the bibliography to find more articles
How does it work?

- An author submits a manuscript to a peer-reviewed journal.
- Copies of the manuscript are sent by the editor to a panel of experts in the field.
- The author name and expert’s names may be kept secret to avoid bias by the panel.
The Peer Panel looks for:

- Quality scholarship
- Solid research studies and methods
- Relevance to the theme of the journal
- Impact of article to the field
The article may be:

- Accepted and published
- Accepted with revisions (may appear online as Pre-Published or PrePub)
- Rejected
Are all Journals scholarly?

No, some journals are peer-reviewed/scholarly but others are

**Trade Journals**

- No peer-review process
- Newsletter-type articles

So...you can’t depend on the name only.
How do I find Peer-Reviewed/Scholarly Articles?

0 Use library databases

AND

0 Check the box: scholarly or peer-reviewed
Questions?

Ask a Librarian!