

Popular Magazines and Scholarly Journals

Magazines and journals are called periodicals because they are issued on a regular or "periodic" basis. Periodicals are usually separated into two major groups: **popular** and **scholarly**. If you are able to recognize the differences between a popular and scholarly source, you can focus your research to retrieve only the type of articles you need.

Popular Magazines

*written by journalists for a general audience

***may** contain **opinionated** articles from a particular point of view or bias, that are not objective

*articles are usually **shorter** and cover a **wide** range of topics that are broadly summarized

*may contain **many** photographs and advertisements

vs.

Scholarly Journals

*written by researchers for a scholarly audience

*contain in-depth, **objective** articles that are **based on original research**

*articles are usually **longer** and cover very specific or **narrow** topics in greater depth

*may contain **few** photographs and advertisements

Use a ***Popular Magazine***

- To find information or opinions about popular culture
- To find up-to-date information about current events
- To find general articles written for people who are not necessarily specialists in the topic area

Examples:

<i>VIBE</i>	<i>Sports Illustrated</i>	<i>US News and World Report</i>
<i>Rolling Stone</i>	<i>Discover</i>	<i>Psychology Today</i>
<i>Glamour</i>	<i>Wired</i>	<i>Ebony</i>
		<i>Consumer Reports</i>

Use a ***Scholarly Journal***

- When doing scholarly research
- To find out in-depth, analytical studies on your topic
- To find bibliographies that point to other relevant research

Examples:

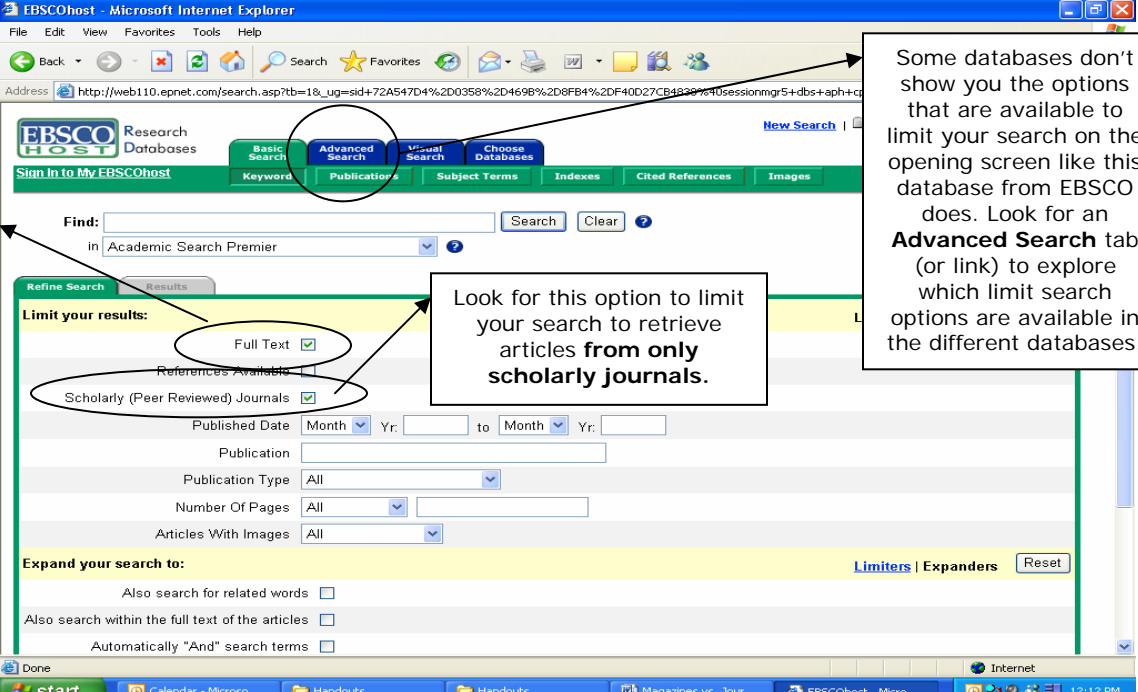
<i>The Historian</i>	<i>Journal of American History</i>	<i>Music Quarterly</i>
<i>Foreign Affairs</i>	<i>Journal of Nursing Education</i>	<i>Community College Review</i>
<i>Journal of Marketing</i>	<i>Journal of the American Dental Association</i>	

Finding ELECTRONIC Articles

The TCTC Library subscribes to databases which contain thousands of journals, with millions of journal articles that are available in an **electronic version** of the print article. **The database articles cannot be accessed "free of charge" on the Internet.** Database access is available to TCTC faculty, staff, and students on the **Databases** link located on the Library's website. *One advantage of using the databases when searching for journal articles is that you can limit your search to retrieve articles that are from only scholarly journals.*

How to Limit your Search:

On the opening screen of a database, find a box designated to limit your search results to **Scholarly** or **Peer-Reviewed Articles**. In order to successfully limit your search, set your limits **BEFORE** you do your subject or keyword search.



Helpful Hint:
Select this option to retrieve only **Full Text** articles. Full Text articles display the entire article from beginning to end, rather than only the article citation or **abstract** - a summary of the article.

Some databases don't show you the options that are available to limit your search on the opening screen like this database from EBSCO does. Look for an **Advanced Search** tab (or link) to explore which limit search options are available in the different databases.

Look for this option to limit your search to retrieve articles **from only scholarly journals**.

The screenshot shows the EBSCOhost search interface. The 'Advanced Search' tab is circled in blue. The 'Limit your results:' section has 'Full Text' and 'Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Journals' checked, both circled in red. The 'Expand your search to:' section has three unchecked options: 'Also search for related words', 'Also search within the full text of the articles', and 'Automatically "And" search terms'.

After submitting your search, you should be directed to a database screen that lists all the **article citations** that match your desired search specifications.

Understanding the Information Listed in an Article Citation:

(a) [Human Immunodeficiency Virus-Associated Peripheral Neuropathies](#). (b) By: Ferrari, Sergio; Vento, Sandro; Monaco, Salvatore; Cavallaro, Tiziana; Cainelli, Francesca; Rizzuto, Nicolo; Temesgen, Zelalem. (c) Mayo Clinic Proceedings, (d) Feb2006, Vol. 81 Issue 2, (e) p213-219, (f) 7p, 2c, 1bw; (AN 19787443)

(g)  [PDF Full Text](#) (3.9MB)

- (a) Title of the article (may link to the full text of the article)
- (b) Author(s) of the article (last name first and each one separated by ";")
- (c) Title of the journal which published the article
- (d) Journal publication information (date, volume number, & issue number)
- (e) The actual page numbers of the article from the published journal
- (f) Number of pages of the article (will vary – *this article has 7 pages*)
- (g) This link displays the entire full text of the article (*this article is a PDF file*)

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