Peer-Reviewed Articles

What are peer-reviewed articles?

Peer review is a process designed to ensure the quality of published scholarship. When a scholar submits a manuscript to a peer reviewed publication, a panel of the author's peers (recognized scholars in their fields) evaluates the manuscript to assess the quality of research. Once the manuscript has been reviewed in this manner, it may be published, rejected, or sent back to the author for modification. Another term used for peer-review is refereed.

How to recognize peer-reviewed articles

Characteristics:
- Substantial in length, often 10 pages or more.
- Contains extensive discussion of the research methods used by the author.
- Is usually written for scholars or other researchers in the field.
- Has an extensive list of works cited at the end of the article.
- Contains substantial statistical analysis.

Sections:
Peer-reviewed and scholarly articles will typically include most if not all of the following sections:
- Literature Review
- Methods or Methodology
- Results
- Discussion

Check Ulrich’s Periodical Directory:

You can also search for a journal by title in Ulrich’s Periodical Directory (available through the University Library) to see if it is peer-reviewed.

A referee shirt next to a journal title indicates that that journal is peer-reviewed.

Use our Ask a Librarian service:

If you have questions or need assistance finding peer-reviewed articles, please use the library's Ask a Librarian service for additional help. Look for the Ask a Librarian link on the University Library website.
How to Find Peer-reviewed Articles

Library Search Box

One way to locate peer-reviewed articles is using the Keyword search box on the University Library website. This will search many of the library databases at the same time. Enter your keywords in the search box and then select “Yes” for “Scholarly (Peer Reviewed)” below the search box.

University Library

Library Search Box

Keywords

"post-traumatic stress disorder" OR PTSD

Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Yes No

Search

Library Databases

Many of the databases that the University Library provides access to, contain peer-reviewed articles.

Some include peer-reviewed articles exclusively. These include:

- Directory of Open Access Journals
- Emerald
- JSTOR
- Oxford Journals
- SAGE Journals
- ScienceDirect

EBSCOhost and ProQuest databases are multidisciplinary databases that provide a method to limit search results to peer-reviewed content.

EBSCOhost:

- Enter your search terms in the search box and click to select “Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Journals” located under “Limit your results”.

EBSCOhost search options:

Searching: Academic Search Complete, Show all | Choose Databases

"post-traumatic stress disorder" OR PTSD X

Search Options | Basic Search | Advanced Search | Search History

Search Modes and Expanders

- Boolean/Phrase
- Find all my search terms
- Find any of my search terms
- SmartText Searching

Limit your results

- Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Journals
How to Find Peer-reviewed Articles

Library Databases continued

ProQuest:

- Enter your search terms in the search box and then click to select “Peer reviewed” located below the search box.

![ProQuest search example](image-url)