



Peer-Reviewed Journal vs. Magazine

Characteristics of a <i>journal</i> :	Characteristics of a <i>magazine</i> :
Articles submitted by researchers, experts (look for "Instructions for Authors" in journal issue)	Articles submitted by authors or assigned by editors, who are employed by the magazine
Contents can be <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reports of research carried out in a particular discipline, • proceedings of conferences or meetings, • news of the scholarly society or institution, • aimed at the scholars in the discipline or the members of the society 	Contents can be <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • miscellaneous articles and news items, usually unsigned, • about a wide variety of subject areas, • aimed at the general public or broad population
Reviewed by referees and/or editorial board of experts (the authors' "peers")	Reviewed by editors only
Articles provide bibliographic references and usually follow a specific format (article abstract, research background and literature review, methodology, research results, areas for further study, conclusion)	Articles provide few or no bibliographic references and usually does not follow a specific presentation format
Sponsored by a scholarly group	Published by a for-profit company
Little or no advertising	Much advertising
Plain text dominates, with some illustrations (tables, charts, graphs, etc.) to support article	Pictures and graphics tend to dominate for a "glitzy and glossy" look

Note: courtesy of the University of Michigan Social Work Library
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