

Most college and university faculty will require you to use scholarly journal articles when writing a research paper. Scholarly journals are also often referred to as “academic journals,” “research articles,” or “refereed journals.”


Scholarly journals articles:

- Often start with an abstract, or summary, of the article.
- Include footnotes, bibliographies, or a list of cited references.
- Generally are longer than articles in popular or news magazines.
- Are reviewed (refereed) by an editorial board and revised before being accepted for publication.
- Include the language, or jargon, of the subject discipline. It assumes some degree of subject knowledge by the reader.
- Report original research or experimentation results.
- Are authored by subject experts, researchers, or scholars in their fields. Author credentials are frequently listed.
- Are typically published by institutions of higher education or professional organizations, such as the American Medical Association (Journal of the American Medical Association), or the National Council on Family Relations (Journal of Marriage and the Family).

Not every scholarly journal article will exhibit all of these characteristics. Often it is much easier to identify these qualities when looking at the print version of the journal. The same characteristics apply, whether the scholarly article is in print or online.

An online record for a scholarly journal article might look like this example below, taken from the Business Source Complete database:

STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP AND ORGANIZATIONAL LEARNING.

<p>Authors: Vera, Dusya¹ Crossan, Mary²</p> <p>Source: Academy of Management Review. Apr2004, Vol. 29 Issue 2, p222-240. 19p. 1 Diagram.</p> <p>Document Type: Article</p> <p>Subject Terms: *Organizational learning *Leadership *Executive ability (Management) *Management styles *Chief executive officers *Competitive advantage *Management *Stocks (Finance) *Sustainable development *Teams in the workplace *Organizational structure Instructional systems</p> <p>NAICS/Industry Codes: 926110 Administration of General Economic Programs</p> <p>Abstract: Adopting the strategic leadership perspective, we develop a theoretical model of the impact of CEO and top manager leadership styles and practices on organizational learning. We take a fine-grained look at the processes and levels of organizational learning to describe how strategic leaders influence each element of the learning system. Researchers have implicitly assumed transformational leadership approaches to organizational learning. We challenge this conventional wisdom by highlighting the value of transactional leadership as well. [ABSTRACT FROM AUTHOR]</p> <p><i>Copyright of Academy of Management Review is the property of Academy of Management and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use. This abstract may be abridged. No warranty is given about the accuracy of the copy. Users should refer to the original published version of the material for the full abstract. (Copyright applies to all Abstracts.)</i></p> <p>Author Affiliations: ¹University of Houston ²University of Western Ontario</p>	<p>Images</p> 
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Questions? Consult your instructor or ask a librarian!

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