

Is it a scholarly article or isn't it?

<http://www.alverno.edu/media/alvernocollege/library/pdfs/scholarly.pdf>

1. Be sure you are looking in an *electronic database* and not on the Internet

<p>Electronic Databases (a.k.a. journal databases) Contain articles that are edited and compiled from well-known journal sources</p>	v.	<p>The Internet (a.k.a. the Web) Has no editorial board to go through the contents of web pages for currency & accuracy</p>
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2. Once you have selected an electronic database that is appropriate to your topic, then *look for the right clues*:

Scholarly Resources

- ◆ are published by an association or scholarly press; almost never appear in newspapers or popular magazines
- ◆ always identify the author(s) and typically list the educational institution the author is affiliated with as well as his/her credentials
- ◆ always have references and a bibliography
- ◆ are typically written by professors, scientists or professionals; often the article is based on or relates to a study
- ◆ usually have long titles that describe the article's content
- ◆ are primarily found in subject-specific periodical indexes such as PsycINFO
- ◆ typically include an abstract summarizing the article's content
- ◆ are usually quite lengthy
- ◆ may contain supporting diagrams, charts or illustrations

Popular Press Resources

- ◆ are published in newspapers and magazines for example, Harpers or Ms.
- ◆ sometimes identify the author(s) as well as the author(s) affiliation and credentials
- ◆ rarely have references and a bibliography
- ◆ are typically written by freelance writers or professional journalists; do not relate to a study
- ◆ usually have fairly short titles that are not descriptive of the article's content
- ◆ are found in more generalized indexes such as Academic Search Elite (EBSCO)
- ◆ rarely include an abstract summarizing the article's contents
- ◆ can be any length, even shorter than a page
- ◆ often contain photographs and advertisements