

## TYPES OF PERIODICALS

Periodicals come in a variety of styles and are published for a variety of audiences. They offer news accounts, opinions, commentary, perspective, scholarly analysis, and reports of research findings. They range from brief newsletters published by trade organizations to in-depth journals published by scientific societies and university presses. All periodicals are published at more or less regular intervals, from daily newspapers to semi-annual journals.

You must make active choices about the types of periodicals needed for a given research project. “Popular press” magazines may be appropriate for limited purposes, but the most important source for university-level research is scholarly journals.

Some of the main categories of periodicals are described below.

PERIODICAL	VALUE OR USE	METHOD OF ACCESS
<b>Newspapers</b> Examples: <i>The Columbian</i> <i>The New York Times</i> <i>The Washington Post</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current information</li> <li>• News stories</li> <li>• Opinion and commentary</li> <li>• Texts of speeches, etc.</li> <li>• Geographic focus</li> </ul>	Best Newspaper Indexes: - <i>ProQuest</i> - <i>New York Times Historical</i> (in <i>ProQuest</i> )
<b>Popular Magazines</b> Examples: <i>Time</i> <i>Newsweek</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current events overviews</li> <li>• Nontechnical language</li> <li>• Charts, pictures, graphs</li> </ul>	Periodical indexes/databases: - <i>EBSCOhost Academic Search Premier</i> - <i>ProQuest</i>
<b>Professional, Trade and Industry journals</b> Example: <i>American Machinist</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written for practitioners in applied fields</li> <li>• Product information</li> <li>• Current trends and practices</li> </ul>	General Indexes/Databases: - <i>EBSCOhost Academic Search Premier</i> - <i>ProQuest</i>
<b>Journals of Opinion</b> Examples: <i>Commentary</i> <i>The New Republic</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written from a political viewpoint (liberal, conservative)</li> <li>• General educated audience</li> <li>• Commentary on politics, society</li> <li>• Book reviews</li> </ul>	General Indexes/Databases: - <i>EBSCOhost Academic Search Premier</i> - <i>ProQuest</i>
<b>Scholarly/research journals</b> Examples: <i>Journal of Reading</i> <i>New England Journal of Medicine</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports of original research</li> <li>• In-depth analyses of topics</li> <li>• Usually contain Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, and Literature Cited sections</li> <li>• Use technical vocabulary</li> </ul>	Specialized disciplinary indexes, abstracts: - <i>CINAHL</i> (Nursing) - <i>ERIC</i> (Education) - <i>Health Source Nursing Academic</i> - <i>Medline</i> (Medicine) - <i>EBSCOhost Academic Search Premier</i> - <i>ProQuest</i>