What is a scholarly journal?

**Scholarly Journals** (also called professional, peer-reviewed, or refereed journals):
- cite their sources in the form of footnotes or endnotes and have bibliographies
- publish original research articles written by scholars or researchers in a particular field of interest
- assume some scholarly background on the part of the reader
- are often published by a specific professional organization
- have been reviewed by others in the field (often a panel or board of experts) and accepted for publication (this is where the term "peer-reviewed" receives its name)

**Examples:**
- *JAMA: The Journal of the American Medical Association*
- *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*
- *Modern Fiction Studies*

**Trade Journals:**
- mention sources, but do not always formally cite them
- publish articles written by specialists in the particular field; i.e., the articles in *Library Journal* are written by librarians and others closely related to the profession
- assume readers have specific interests in content—articles are focused on a particular trade or industry
- are often published by profession organizations
- are not subject to peer-review

**Examples:**
- *Advertising Age*
- *Aviation Week and Space Technology*
- *American Libraries*

**News/General Interest Periodicals:**
- sometimes cite their sources
- publish articles written by free-lance writers and their own staff (typically not scholars in the field)
- assume no specific scholarly background on the part of the reader
- are usually published by a commercial enterprise or individual
- are geared at providing general information to a broad audience

**Examples:**
- *National Geographic*
- *Food and Wine*
- *Scientific American*

**Popular Periodicals:**
- are full of pictures and other visuals to enhance the reading/viewing experience
- rarely cite their sources and often present second-hand information
- publish articles that are relatively short and assume a minimal level of education
- intend to entertain and/or promote a viewpoint

**Examples:**
- *Newsweek*
- *Sports Illustrated*
- *Time*