



## Popular vs. Scholarly Articles

### Popular Articles (Magazines)

- Written by journalists or professional writers for a general audience
- Use language easily understood by general readers
- Rarely give full citations for sources
- Tend to be shorter than journal articles
- Examples of Popular Magazines: *Newsweek*, *People*, *Popular Science*, *National Geographic*

### Scholarly Articles (Journals)

- Are written by and for faculty, researchers or scholars (chemists, historians, doctors, artists, etc.)
- Use technical language
- Tend to be longer articles about research
- Include full citations for sources
- Are often refereed or peer-reviewed (articles are reviewed by an editor and other specialists before being accepted for publication)
- Book reviews and editorials are not considered scholarly articles, even when found in scholarly journals
- Examples of Scholarly Journals: *Journal of Applied Psychology*, *Contemporary Sociology*,

### Some points to remember:

- Both magazine and journal articles can be good sources for your work.
- When selecting articles, think about how you intend to use the information:
- Do you want background on a topic new to you? (use magazines)
- Did your teacher say to cite scholarly resources? (use journals)
- Often a combination of the two will be most appropriate for undergraduate research.