

Some of the following characteristics are found in *most* scholarly journals:

WHERE DID YOU FIND IT?

- Did you find a citation for it in a **subject-specific index** (for example, ERIC, CINAHL, Social Work Abstracts, ATLA, MLA)?

HOW ARE ARTICLES CHOSEN FOR PUBLICATION?

- Is the journal published or sponsored by a **professional scholarly society or association**?
- Is there a **list of reviewers** (editorial board) inside the front cover or within the first few pages of the journal? This type of journal is known as a "juried" or "refereed" journal.

WHAT ARE THE GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF A SCHOLARLY JOURNAL ARTICLE?

- Is the article organized into **at least two of the following sections**?
 - a) Introduction or Literature Review
 - b) Theory or Background
 - c) Subjects
 - d) Methods
 - e) Results
 - f) Discussion
- Does the article have a **bibliography or list of references**?
- Does the **title of the article reflect its content**?
- Is there an **abstract** (a concise summary) at the beginning of the article?
- Are the **author's credentials** listed?
- Is the article based on either **original research or authorities in the field** as opposed to personal opinion?
- Are there **supporting diagrams, charts, or illustrations** with the article?