Finding Scholarly Journal Articles

Where do I start? Here are a few options:

1. Try using the OneSearch box on the Library Home page.

   ![Find Articles, Books, Media and More](image)

2. Use Library Databases (see Databases or Databases by Subject) OR

3. Google Scholar – Be Aware -- not all full-text, must decipher what is “good” and useable, but can be useful. (Linked under Databases. Linking from here connects Google Scholar to ADU journals.) Make sure your computer links to ADU journals in Google Scholar

   Google Scholar >> Settings >> Library links >> Type in name of college/university >> Save

   - The OneSearch box will lead you to multiple types of materials – books, ebooks, streaming video, and journal articles so refining is needed.
   - Library databases focus more on journal articles, but are starting to add book titles.
   - Over time you will get familiar with which resource/option works best for you.
   - Database choice depends on your purpose and focus.

   Types of *periodicals*: Magazines, Journals, Trade Magazines/Journals

   * Periodical – a serial publication that is published on a “periodic” or regular interval/basis – weekly, monthly, bi-monthly, quarterly, etc. usually less than one year. Periodicals usually contain a mix of articles by multiple authors.

   **What’s found in a Journal?**

   - Editorials
   - Book Reviews
   - Original Research articles
     - Clinical Study
   - Review articles
   - CEU’s
   - Advertisements
   - Job Ads

   **Other names you hear used for scholarly material:**

   - Academic Journal
   - Peer-reviewed Journal
   - Professional Journal
   - Refereed Journal
   - Scholarly Journal
Types of Scholarly Articles

- Case Study
- Clinical Study
  - Qualitative – descriptive, written
  - Quantitative – deals with numbers
    - Random controlled trial
- Review articles
  - Meta analysis
  - Review of Literature
  - Systematic Reviews

How do I know I’m looking at a clinical/research study?

Look for:

- “Journal” in the title of the name of the periodical* (many times, but not always in name).
- Headings in the article that indicate research:
  | Abstract | Objective |
  | Introduction | Design |
  | Methods | Patients |
  | Results | Methods |
  | Discussion | Results |
  | Conclusion | Conclusion |
  | References | References |
- Tables, Charts, or Statistics
- Few pictures
- Authors with degrees after their names or if medical related usually professional designations – MD, RD, OTR, PhD, MS and many others.
- Scholarly articles are usually longer – 8+ pages. References are often several pages.

Q: How can I find a single clinical study?

A: After using your main search term, try adding “research”, “randomized controlled”, “clinical trial”, “empirical”, “qualitative” or “quantitative” in your search.

Please ask questions--- use ASK US (email), chat, or visit the library.

The ADU library team wants to help.