



Wichita State University Libraries

Types of Periodicals

Periodicals are available in numerous formats, and are published for a variety of audiences. They offer news accounts, opinion, commentary, perspective, scholarly analysis, and reports of research findings. Periodicals are published at regular intervals – daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly, etc. The main categories of periodicals are described below. **NOTE:** Some professors may require that you use *only* periodicals that fall within the *Scholarly/Research Journal* category. Check with your professors to clarify their expectations before you begin your research.

PERIODICAL	CHARACTERISTICS	INDEXING
Newspapers <i>New York Times</i> <i>Wichita Eagle</i> <i>USA Today</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Current information - News stories - Opinion and commentary - Advertisements, classifieds - Geographic focus 	Newspaper Indexes: <i>New York Times Index</i> <i>Custom Newspapers</i> <i>LexisNexis Academic</i> World Wide Web
Trade Journals <i>Billboard</i> <i>Aviation Week & Space</i> <i>Technology</i> <i>Chain Store Age</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Written for practitioners in applied fields - Product information - Current trends & practices - Advertisements 	Business & General Indexes: <i>Bus. & Co. Resource Center</i> <i>Business Full Text</i>
Popular Magazines <i>Time</i> <i>Glamour</i> <i>Discover</i> <i>Business Week</i> <i>Sports Illustrated</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Written for general public - Current event overviews - Many color illustrations - Non-technical language - Many advertisements - For entertainment 	Magazine Indexes: <i>Readers' Guide Full Text</i> <i>Expanded Academic ASAP</i> <i>Research Library</i>
Journals of Opinion <i>New Republic</i> <i>Commentary</i> <i>American Spectator</i> <i>National Review</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Written from particular viewpoint (political, religious, activist, etc.) - For general educated audience - Commentary on politics, society - Book reviews 	General Indexes: <i>Readers' Guide Full Text</i> <i>Expanded Academic ASAP</i> <i>PAIS (Public Affairs Information Service)</i>
Scholarly/Research Journals <i>Journal of Marriage and The Family</i> <i>New England Journal of Medicine</i> <i>American Art Journal</i> <i>Modern Fiction Studies</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Written for professionals - Reports of original research - In-depth analysis - Few advertisements - Charts and graphs - Technical vocabulary - Usually contain: Abstract, Introduction, Methodology, Results, Conclusion, and Bibliography 	Specialized indexes: <i>Social Sciences Full Text</i> <i>BIOSIS Previews (biology)</i> <i>Criminal Justice Abstracts</i> <i>MEDLINE (medicine)</i> <i>ABI/INFORM (business)</i> <i>Art Full Text</i> <i>PsycINFO (psychology)</i>