



Scholarly Journal Article & Lit Reviews

Goal: Access & analyze scholarly journal articles in order to construct a literature review.

Stand on the shoulders of giants.

-Google Scholar's motto, paraphrased from the Isaac Newton quote

Scholarly Journal Sources:

- 1) What is a scholarly journal article? (Give your "best guess" definition).
- 2) What is most challenging to you about reading a journal article (or what do you *think* will be most challenging if you have never read one before)?

Nuts & Bolts:

For your Capstone research project, you may use both primary and secondary data sources.

Primary vs. Secondary Data Collection:

Data can be classified as primary data and secondary data. Primary data is data gathered for the first time by the researcher; secondary data is data taken by the researcher from secondary sources, internal or external.

Over-generalizing your results

Your first attempts at primary research will most likely include small groups of people and may not be representative of the population as a whole. It is important to remember not to over-generalize your findings--in other words, don't assume that your findings are necessarily true of every person within the group or every person in a society.

Limitations of Primary Data

Any data you may gather will have major limitations due to sample size and population constraints, and issues with getting permission to collect data from human subjects. Therefore, secondary research (specifically scholarly journal sources) will be a major part of your research study.

Triangulation of Data

One of the benefits of combining primary research with secondary research is in the area of data triangulation. Data triangulation is when a piece of data, a finding, or a generalization is able to be verified with several different research methods. This helps add to your credibility and makes your findings stronger.

For example, you are studying binge drinking on campus. You find national averages that indicate that 45% of college students binge drink nationwide. You conduct your own research at your own college campus. You find that 47% of the individuals you surveyed drink; you also interview a counselor on campus who reports that approximately 1/3 of the students who he sees suffer from a drinking problem. Thus, your results from an interview with an expert and your own survey support the national averages.

Adapted from: Purdue Owl <<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/owlprint/559/>>

Accessing & Analyzing Scholarly Journal Articles:

If you need additional practice on analyzing scholarly journal sources, use the additional journal articles entitled:

1. **“Bullying Suicide Depression”** - Full title: Bullying, Depression, & Suicidality in Adolescents
2. **“Organ Donation & Knowledge”** - Full title: Use of social media and college student organization to increase support for organ donation and advocacy: a case report

PRACTICE! Find 3 Scholarly Journal Articles on Google Scholar for your topic:

1. Go to: <http://scholar.google.com/>
2. Uncheck patents and legal documents (you just want articles!)
3. Type in various search terms. Try different combination of your population, risk factor, & outcome variables.
 - a. i.e.: sleep stress headaches teenagers
4. Try to find articles from the past 5 years. Research changes quickly! You can adjust the date range on the left side
5. Read as much as you can access (sometimes just the abstract, sometimes the entire article).
6. For each journal article, construct a table like this to record your findings. As you read and analyze the article take concise notes.

Thinking Steps: To “get it” I need to understand the...	YOUR THINKING: <i>This should be in your own words! Ask yourself: Do get this? Can I explain it in my own words? If not, where do I go? What connections do I need to make?</i>
Problem	
BIG Question	
Purpose (Research Question)	
Methods	
Results	