**JOURNAL IDENTIFICATION ACTIVITY**

**Purpose:** This in-class group activity is designed to provide students with an opportunity to practice identifying the differences between trade, popular, and scholarly journals.

**Preparation:** Set-up for this activity can be done in the class meeting prior to the activity, outside of class as homework, or at the beginning of the class meeting in which the students will engage in the activity.

Joyner Library has a video tutorial that students can watch in or outside of class: <https://youtu.be/1eKDcllIupI>

*Pocket Keys* also has information about the characteristics of a scholarly journal article in chapter 6.

You will also need 5-7 print copies of different popular, trade, and scholarly journals.

**Activity:** Have the students break out into groups of 4-5. Each group will receive one journal. Journals can be distributed randomly or the group may choose which journal they want to analyze.

Each group should examine their journal and determine whether it is a popular, trade, or scholarly journal based on its characteristics such as language level, text to image ratio, type and amount of advertising, subject matter, author credibility, etc.

Each group should collectively write a brief report on what type of source they believe they have and why. They will then share their report with the rest of the class by reading it aloud. For accountability purposes, the group could also submit the report for a participation grade.