## Popular vs. Scholarly Articles

### Popular
- Written by journalists, columnists, reporters, bloggers, etc.
- Written for non-experts and the casually interested
- Sometimes referenced, but rarely with academic/scholarly sources
- Written to entertain, inform, provoke, and make $$$
- Usually reviewed by an editor, though freelance work may be unreviewed

### Scholarly
- Written by scholars, academics, and researchers
- Written for, and by, those with expertise in the field
- Thoroughly referenced, with credible and reputable sources
- Written to advance scholarship and academic knowledge
- Usually reviewed by fellow academics and scholars ("peer-review")

## Distinguishing Between Popular & Scholarly Articles

Reference List / Readability & Language / Aesthetics / Article Title / “Read on a Bus?”
## [Academic] Books vs. Journals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>[Academic] Books</th>
<th>Journals</th>
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<tr>
<td>• At publication date, usually 3-4 years behind cutting-edge research</td>
<td>• At publication date, are on the cutting-edge of research</td>
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<td>• Broader coverage; more fulsome discussion of a topic</td>
<td>• Narrow coverage; deals with a particular topic in great detail</td>
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<td>• Written for scholars, but might also be read by the public-at-large</td>
<td>• Written for scholars; few concessions made for non-experts and outsiders</td>
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<td>• Usually addresses one topic (though edited volumes can address more)</td>
<td>• Academic journals can address many different (sub)topics in a single issue</td>
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<td>• Carry more weight in the humanities and social sciences</td>
<td>• Carry more weight in the maths and hard sciences</td>
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## Things To Consider

Influential journal articles are often turned into books / Journal articles date quickly