

Finding Sources



Scholarly journal articles

It can take some time to find useful research sources. Also, keep in mind that scholarly (peer-reviewed) journal articles are oftentimes quite narrowly focused. The best way to use a narrowly-focused scholarly article is as an example of a general point you're trying to make in your research paper.



Books

I love books!



Many students find it easier to use books as research sources because they are not as narrowly-focused as scholarly articles.



Another tip

Whether you're using a book or a journal article in your research paper, one helpful tip to keep in mind is that it is sometimes possible to find additional useful research sources *in your original sources' own* works cited or references list.



What about Wikipedia?

Most instructors will not accept a Wikipedia article as a research source, but it can still be useful to read an article on your topic in

Wikipedia first in order to get a broad overview of your subject.

Also, some Wikipedia articles list links to scholarly sources at the end of them.



Where can I find scholarly (peer reviewed) sources?

Three great places to find research sources (books & scholarly [peer reviewed] journal articles) are the college's library catalog, the EbscoHost database (accessed through the college Library's webpage) and Google Scholar.

EBSCO Research
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Checking this limit box along with your search will select only peer reviewed articles

Where to find Google Scholar:

Go to www.google.com and select “Scholar” from the drop down list under “more.”



Sources continued

Always
try to find
reliable
sources.

Other websites can also sometimes be used as a reliable research source.

Always check with your instructor if you are unsure about using a particular website as a source.

