Periodicals

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Presentation topics:

• Definition of a periodical
• Why periodicals are useful sources
• Common types of periodicals
• Periodicals place in the information cycle
• Evaluating periodical articles
What is a periodical publication?

A *periodical publication* is any publication that is published in regular intervals for an indefinite period of time.

Why periodicals are useful sources

- They are published more frequently than books.
- They tend to be the place where knowledge is first revealed.
- They help you get a sense of how the topic was received and/or perceived at the time it was happening.
- They tend to contain the most current information on a topic.

Common types of periodicals

- Newspapers
- General magazines
- Trade magazines
- Scholarly journals
Not all articles in a scholarly journal are scholarly.

A typical scholarly article
- includes a bibliography at the end
- is at least three pages, or 1100 words
Trade publications: Scholarly or not?

Scholarly vs. popular

Video Clip Source:
Paramount, 2006. Film.

Web Object
http://streaming.missioncollege.org/mspeck/media/fncTrth6E26cc.mp4
Periodicals place in the Information Cycle

Evaluating periodicals articles

- Authority
- Accuracy
- Content
- Objectivity
- Currency

Evaluation example: scholarly articles

**Authority:** The article's authors have authority. They are all affiliated with the National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

**Accuracy:** References are included so the information can be checked.

**Content:** I read the abstract and this article is about obesity and the results of a long term study. It compares the results of data gathered over 9 years, starting in 1999, so is relevant for a current discussion of this topic.
Evaluating magazine and newspaper articles

Quiz

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