

Journal Articles

Before you read the article, note the following:

1. **Article title:** Carefully read the title! Often, you can select or ignore an article just by the information contained in the title.
2. **Article date:** Did your professor specify a publication date range for articles (such as the past 10 years)? Topics like technology and healthcare that change often will need more recent research.
3. When picking a journal article, check that the following match your research needs:
 - a. Location of study.
 - b. Time period of study.
 - c. Verify that it is a scholarly source (on the FSC database, select scholarly or peer-reviewed).
4. The abstract is a brief summary of the article, covering the main points. The abstract can help you to decide if the article will be useful.
5. After reading the abstract, skim the article and closely read sections that pertain to your research.
6. Take notes (include the page or paragraph numbers!) of information that will help you fulfill the assignment guidelines. You can refer to this when you are writing your essay.
7. **Remember to cite** direct quotes (the source's words), paraphrases (source's ideas put into your own words), and statistics that you borrow from the source.
8. For help with citing: Writing Center web page, Writing Resource Center, Documentation (MLA, APA, and Chicago styles of documentation).
9. For help finding journal articles see a Reference Librarian in the Greenley Library.