



# Evaluating Journals

A Guide to Decide Which Journals to Seek Out for Publication

## Ways to Identify Potential Journals for Publication

- Use "Web of Science: EndNote Manuscript Matches" to find journals that publish similar topics related to what you are hoping to publish.
- Analyze your references to see where they published.
- Visit a journal's website and explore their content. Journals can be chosen based on topic (see box to the right).

## Key Questions to Ask Prior to Choosing a Journal

- Index and abstract services
- Peer review policy
- Publication fee/schedule
- Article acceptance rate
- Do you recognize people in the field who have published here before?
- Are your colleagues familiar with the journal?

## Characteristics of Predatory Publishers

- Invitation to join editorial board
- Subject area does not match yours
- Promise of rapid review
- Over-emphasize attributes of scholarly journals (i.e. false claims of indexing, "Published in USA")
- Check impact factor on Journal Citation Reports

## Types of Journals

- Scholarly journals
- Trade journals
- Magazines

## Identify Potential Journals Based on Topic

- Field-specific journals
  - i.e. biology, chemistry
- Discipline-specific journals
  - i.e. marine biology
- Taxonomy-specific journals
  - i.e. ichthyology
- Sub-discipline-specific journals
  - i.e. marine pollution, marine toxicology
- Geographic-focus journals
  - i.e. North America, Atlantic

# USEFUL RESOURCES

## General Advice

- Think-Check-Submit – <https://thinkchecksubmit.org/>

## Find a Journal Using Your Title & Abstract

- Manuscript Matcher – Web of Science (CofC people use <http://libguides.library.cofc.edu/go.php?c=9030497>)
- Elsevier Journal Finder – <https://journalfinder.elsevier.com/>
- Wiley Journal Finder – <https://journalfinder.wiley.com/search?type=match>
- Springer Journal Suggester – <https://journalsuggester.springer.com/>

## Journal Metrics

- Impact Factor – Journal Citation Reports (CofC people use <http://libguides.library.cofc.edu/go.php?c=9030590>)
- Eigenfactor – <http://www.eigenfactor.org/>
- CiteScore – Scopus (<https://www.scopus.com/sources.uri?zone=TopNavBar&origin=searchbasic>)

## Journals/Publishers Exhibiting Predatory Behavior

- Bealls List – <https://beallslist.net/>
- Stop Predatory Journals – <https://predatoryjournals.com>

## Lists of Vetted Journals

- Directory of Open Access Journals – <https://doaj.org>
- Cabell's Journal Whitelist – (CofC people use <http://nuncio.cofc.edu/login?url=https://www.cabells.com/>)

**THINK! CHECK!  
SUBMIT!**