

# What is a Journal?



## Definition of a Journal

A journal is a periodical especially dealing with matters of current interest--often used for official or semi-official publications of special groups.

- nonspecialized for the well-informed on literature, art, social affairs, politics, etc.
- learned for specialists--primary & secondary research (reviews, abstracts, literature surveys, etc.)
- practical professional in applied fields, including technology, medicine, law, agriculture, management, library science, business, and trades
- parochial of any type but addressed chiefly to a parochial audience

Includes:

- some professional/trade publications (*Harvard Business Review*, *Library Journal*, etc.)
- scholarly/academic publications (*Biochemistry*, *Communication Studies*, etc.)
- refereed publications (*American Historical Review*, *Journal of Special Education*, etc.)