



Where to Publish?

Finding and Evaluating Academic Journals

Need more help?

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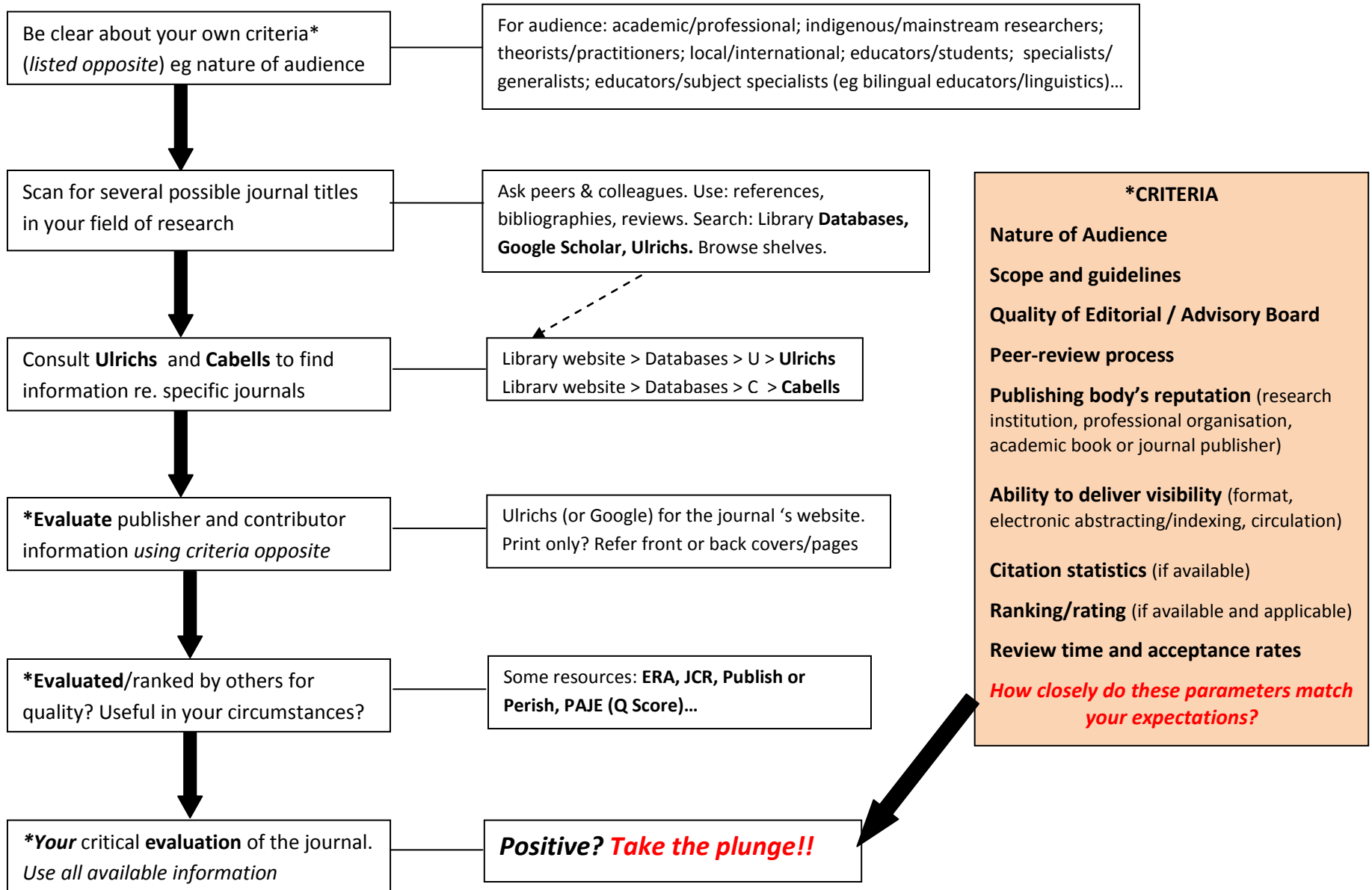
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Where to Publish?

A SUGGESTED STRATEGY for matching your research outputs to an appropriate journal.



Critical Evaluation

Specific tools may or may not be helpful in particular situations, but **your own judgement, and that of your peers, is crucial.**

Holbrook et. al. (2007) suggest asking how closely **your research matches a journal's profile.**

Pertinent criteria:

- Audience
- Scope and guidelines
- Quality of Editorial Board and peer-review process
- Ability to deliver visibility (electronic format, publisher profile, indexing and abstracting)
- Citation statistics or other ratings, if available
- Review times and acceptance rates

1. *Scan the environment:*

- Consult colleagues and peers
- Refer to references, bibliographies, review articles
- Use **Library databases** and **Google Scholar** to search for key authors in the field. Which journals do they publish in?
- Use **Ulrich's Periodical Directory** to search for **journals by subject area**

2. *Select a small number of titles in the field for follow up.* Allows for **appropriate comparison** and **detailed evaluation**

3. *For general information about particular journals, consult ULRICHS, PUBLISHER WEBSITES and CABELLS.* Use **Library Catalogue** to view University of Auckland holdings. *View issues!*

Ulrich's Periodicals Directory

A searchable international directory of more than 300,000 serial publications. The subject index is quite broad, so be prepared to use keywords as well to refine results. Gives useful indicators of academic credibility and publishing information eg. publication and review status; frequency; publisher contact details (hyperlinked websites); available formats; coverage by indexing and abstracting services.

Access: Library Website > Databases & Articles > U > Ulrich's Periodicals Directory

Publisher Sites (Use Google or Ulrich's to locate)

e.g. British Educational Research Journal <http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/carfax/01411926.html> has information on: aims and scope; abstracting and indexing; editorial board; associations; instructions for authors; tables of contents (previous)

Cabell's Directories of Publishing Opportunities in Education

Over 1100 Education journals listed. Features detailed author information, including acceptance rates and lead times for review.

Access: Library Website > Databases & Articles > C > Cabell's Education Directories

4. *For journal ratings and ranking information, consult ERA, JCR, PUBLISH OR PERISH and PAJE.*

Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) Journal Lists

The *Excellence for Research in Australia* (ERA) project supports the evaluation of Australian research, and includes a list of nearly 21,000 journal ratings compiled in association with the research sector. Journals are rated A*, A, B or C, and Not Rated. Parameters include several Fields of Research (FoR). Nearly 1000 titles relate directly to Education. Results are in an Excel spreadsheet.

See: <http://www.arc.gov.au/era>

ERA 2010 > Ranked Outlets > Ranked Journal List also ERA 2010 > Ranked Outlets > Ranked Journal List Development

Tips:

- **Freeze panes** to avoid headings disappearing when you scroll!
- Suggest **re-sorting by Field of Research and ranking**.
NB. *Faculty of Education Research Office has provided a copy of the spreadsheet, sorted by Field of Research, to each School*
- **Ctrl+f** will bring up a window for searching within worksheet. Try keywords from a title.

Relevant FoR: Curriculum & Pedagogy, Education, Education Systems (is not IT!), Specialist Studies in Education. Others according to content.

See also: ERA 2010 Key 2010 Documents http://www.arc.gov.au/era/key_docs10.htm for

ERA 2010 Discipline Matrices (for the algorithmically inclined)

ERA 2010 Submission Guidelines (good overview of ERA)

Journal Citation Reports (JCR)

Provides annual rankings of 8000 Thomson-ISI journals (2200+ are social sciences) by various measures, including **impact factor**. Education coverage is limited but includes high quality publications.

Search Options

- 2 editions (Science, Social Sciences)
- For particular journal or by Categories – Education (Science edition); Education and Ed Research; Social Work
- *Year is Year under review (currently 2009)*

Results List

- Initially by journal title
- Can re-sort by: current articles, total cites, immediacy, impact factor

Details (click on a hyperlinked title)

- Multiple measures of performance, including graphs for times cited, times citing
- **Impact factor = cites to recent items/number of recent items** [recent = 2 or 5 years *prior* to review year]

General

- *Ranking* = higher the better
- *Measurements derived from within the JCR database only*
- Statistics have to be *contextualised* eg length of publication cycles; discipline-specific factors; could be cited because *not* good...
- *Assistance* – ‘Help’ within JCR; Online Tutorial and guides (Connect page); Subject librarian

Access: Library Website > Databases and Articles > J > Journal Citation Reports > Connect

Publish or Perish

Publish or Perish is a piece of downloadable software that uses Google Scholar citations to compute alternative ‘impact factors’ and indices.

- Useful for Social Sciences
- Can **analyse by Author, Journal or Citation** information
- Metrics include cites per paper, cites per author etc
- Citation searching option can also be used for searching by topic or author
- Windows, Mac or Linux versions
- Produced by a research-active academic, Anne-Wil Harzing, with a strong reputation in this area.

Access: <http://www.harzing.com/pop.htm>

PAJE & “Q Score”

Publishing in Academic Journals for Education [PAJE] website and publications - produced by the Centre for the Study of Research Training and Impact [SORTI], University of Newcastle, Australia in 2007. **Note: PAJE probably superseded by ERA project**

- Comprehensive information on 1042 peer-reviewed, English language research journals in the field of Education
- Produces Q Score rankings – composite index. Based on ‘**esteem percentage**’ [ex survey data], **impact factor** (if present) and international **makeup of Editorial Board**. Q Score ranges from 0 – 29.33 (higher the better)

Access: The Epsom Library has two copies of the PAJE CD and booklet for 7 day loan. Search the Catalogue for: PAJE

Glossary

Academic: *scholarly, peer-reviewed.* Articles contained in *academic* publications are written by experts in the field and based on evidence-based research, which is reported and referenced in the article

Bibliography: a list of all the information sources referred to and consulted by the author(s). *Bibliographies* are evidence of academic work

Catalogue: the online *Catalogue* describes the material held by the University of Auckland Library. It includes titles of journals; which of their issues are held; their locations; and/or links to online versions

Citation: often used synonymously with *reference*. For journal articles, *citation* components include: article and journal titles, author(s), year of publication, volume, issue/date and page information

Citation statistics: various measurements describing how often an article or journal title has been referenced or cited by others

Database: a *database* consists of organised and searchable information, stored electronically. Library databases describe journals, books etc., and their contents eg articles, chapters, reviews, conference papers. Some databases contain full-text but sometimes there is only a citation and abstract available within that particular database

Journal: an *academic* publication which is issued regularly in a series eg monthly, quarterly. Journals are a subset of periodicals or serial; groupings which include other types of publication such as magazines and newspapers. Regularly published professional and trade publications may be referred to as journals

Peer review: Most journals described as *academic* contain *peer-reviewed* or *refereed* articles, reports or papers, which have been previewed by other experts in the field, and assessed by them as worthy of publication.

Professional: describes material relevant to both theorists and practitioners in the field, but journals are not *academic* in nature. *Professional* publications often summarise research and are likely to contain other items of interest - such as information about resources or conferences. They are usually written in an accessible style. Some professional publications are not research-focused and would be more accurately described as *Trade* publications

Research Outputs: often refers to journal articles, reports, conference papers. Could also include: theses, books and chapters, presentations, datasets, resource material, research posters etc

Review article: An article reviewing a number of research outputs; authored by various people. A *review article* can be an excellent source of citations and references. It summarise works in the field, or aspects thereof, at that point in time

Journal Types and Examples

ACADEMIC	PROFESSIONAL (RESEARCH)	PROFESSIONAL (TRADE)
Educational Assessment	set: Research Information for Teachers	Education Today: The Education Magazine of the Future
Journal of Teacher Education	Teaching Science: The Journal of the Australian Science Teachers Association	Learning and Leading with Technology
Review of Educational Research		Many Voices
The Reading Teacher		New Zealand Education Review
Waikato Journal of Education		Sound Arts: The Menza Magazine

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