ProQuest Scholarly Authoring Workshop: Introduction to Publishing in Academic Journals



Meet Your Presenter



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Session Objectives

At the end of this session you will:

- Apply some basic standard rules for getting your article published
- Use to advantage the Peer Review process
- Evaluate the value of the open access publishing
- Detect to avoid the predatory publishing
- Use the ProQuest resources to help in your journey to Authoring

5 Tips for Getting Published

THE EVOLUTION OF ACADEMIA

PUBLISH

PUBLISH or Perish PUBLISH IN HIGH IMPACT JOURNALS

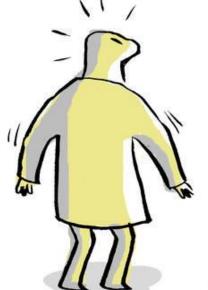
OR PERISH

PUBLISH FREQUENTLY IN HIGH IMPACT JOURNALS AND

MAYBE YOU WON'T PERISH









5 Tips for Getting Published

- 1. Know your field
- 2. Pick the right journal
- 3. Write well!
- 4. Follow submission rules
- 5. Accept feedback and revise



1. Know Your Field

"Do you have contribution to make? i.e. the conventional wisdom is mistaken; this is theory extension / filling a gap; this is novel, innovative work. Questions to ask yourself: Who's going to be interested? How does it build on what we already know?" $\frac{1}{2}$

"It is a **bad sign** if you do not recognize the **names** of any members of the editorial board." ²

"Book Reviews [are] the easiest way to get published and you get a free book too!" 3

"Take some time to read journals in your field (if you haven't already done this during your research) and familiarize yourself with their content." $\frac{4}{}$

ProQuest tip:

- Create Alerts or RSS Feeds to keep up to date with your field
- Use Pivot to build your network of scholars in your field and to find calls for papers to forthcoming conferences.

1. Know Your Field and define your topic (cont.)

Define your topic: A topic refers to a subject area

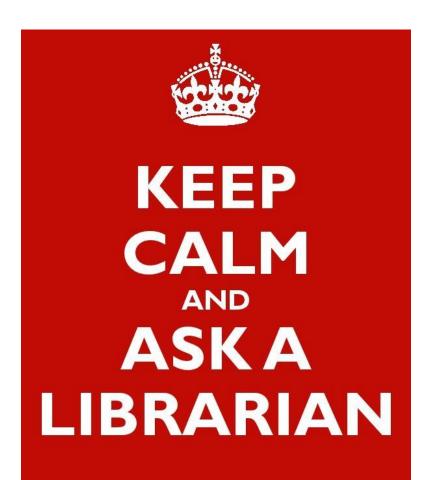
• It could be a controversy, a problem, or even a pastime or interest

Your goal should be to find a gap in the research

- The key is finding a question that hasn't been definitively answered
- Your paper should address a topic that is still up for debate

Define your topic

- Define your research question and gather background information
- Locate and evaluate your sources
- Ask your librarian!

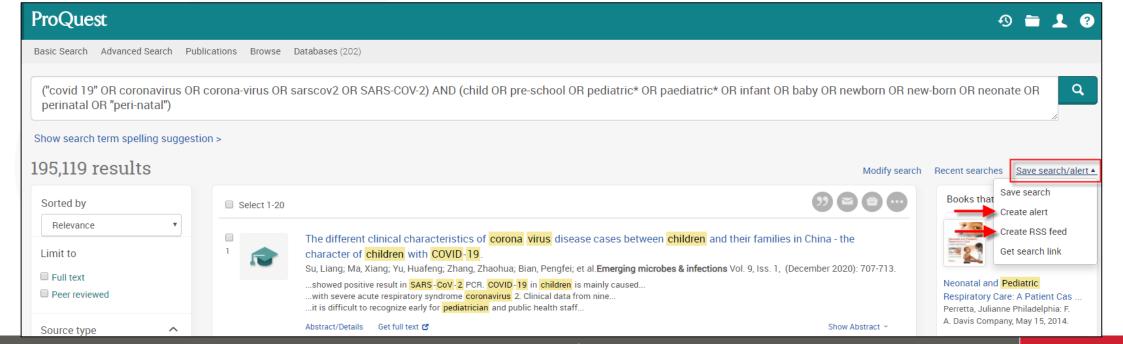


TIP! Let ProQuest Send the Latest Research to You

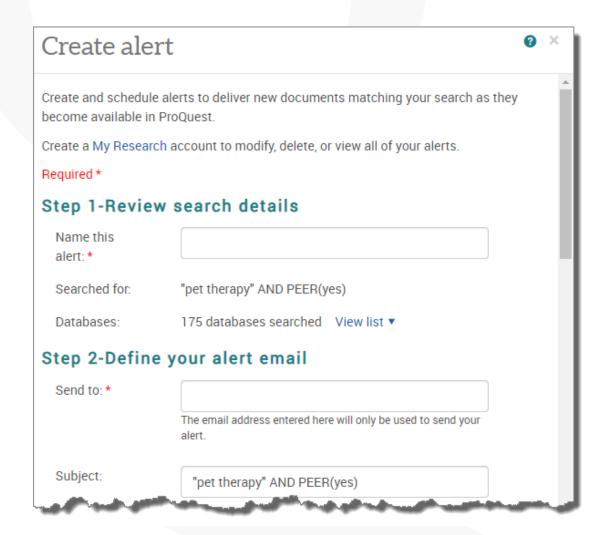
Use the Alerts feature to have the newest items sent to your email

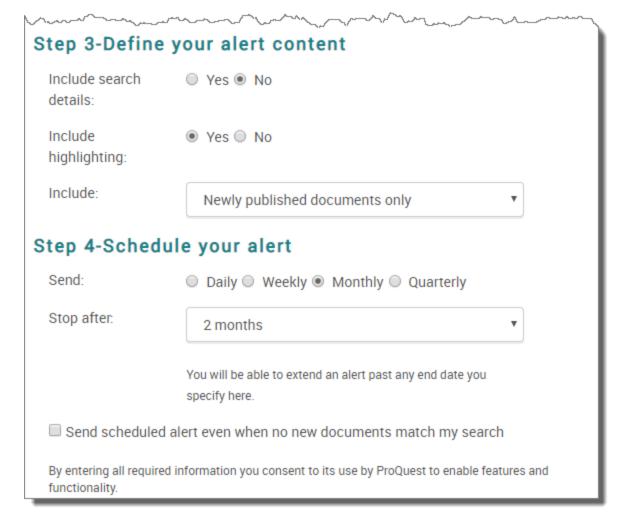
Use the RSS feeds feature to pull in the latest items to your RSS reader

Access to records via email/feeds based on local authentication



TIP! Let ProQuest Send the Latest Research to You

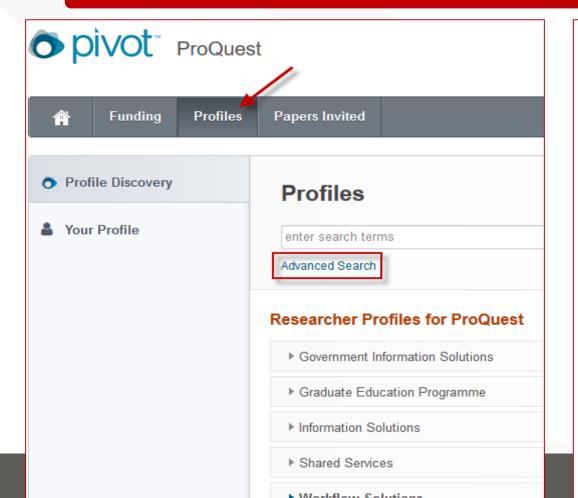


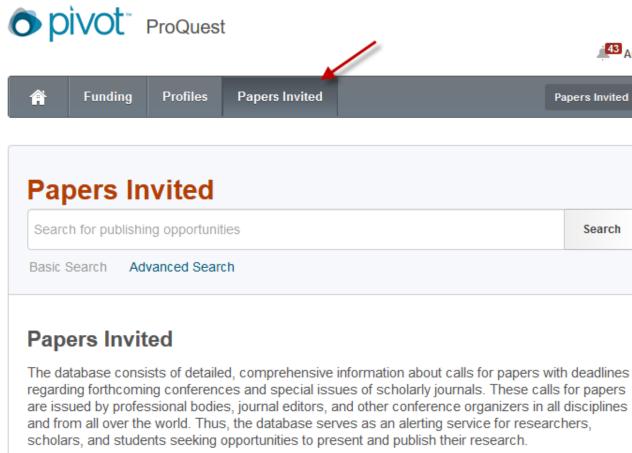


TIP! Let Pivot discover future collaborators and Calls for papers in your subject area

Use the "Profiles" Advanced Search to locate researchers either inside or outside your institution

Use the "Papers Invited" Search to find publishing opportunities





2. Pick the Right Journal

"Check the references to see in which journals the research you are citing mainly falls." $\frac{1}{2}$

"The journal is normally seen as a conversation; you need to embed your work within it. Make sure that you have read any editorials on the nature and scope of the journal." ⁵

"We all want to be published in the American Historical Review or the Annals of Mathematics, but the biggest journals are not always the best option for a first publication." ⁶

"The SCImago Journal & Country Rank is a publicly available portal that includes the journals and country scientific indicators developed from the information contained in the Scopus® database (Elsevier B.V.).

These indicators can be used to assess and analyze scientific domains" 8

ProQuest tip:

- Use Publications Search to identify the key journals in your field
- Create advanced searches
 narrowed to your research field
 and see which publications
 results are coming from
- Ulrichsweb.com might also be a good information source to locate all scholarly journals relevant to your field

Google Scholar Metrics — This free alternative to Scopus and JCR ranks top 100 journals of different categories. You can browse through the highly cited articles for each journal. $\frac{9}{2}$

2. Pick the Right Journal (cont.) Factors to consider about journals 10

- Aims and scope: be sure that the journal is publishing research similar to that of your manuscript
- **Readership**: be sure that the target audience you are trying to reach make up part of the readership of the journal
- **Indexing**: to increase the visibility of your article online, be sure that the journal is indexed in the online databases that your target audience will use to find articles
- **Open access**: to increase the accessibility of your article, consider publishing in an open access journal. This will ensure that your target audience will have access to your article worldwide
- **Publishing frequency**: if you want to publish your findings quickly, you should choose a journal with a high publication frequency (e.g., weekly rather than quarterly)
- **Acceptance Rate:** A journal's acceptance rate refers to the number of manuscripts accepted for publication relative to the number of manuscripts submitted within the last year.

Journal Publication Workflow and Peer Review Process 11



Author submits











NO

REJECTION The manuscript is

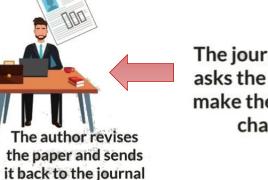
DESK

rejected outright

PEER REVIEW

The paper is sent for peer review to two or more reviewers





The journal editor asks the author to make the relevant changes

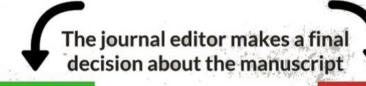


The journal editor checks the reviewers' report and recommendations

- ACCEPT WITHOUT **CHANGES** (very rare)
- REVISE & RESUBMIT (major revisions)
- REVISE & RESUBMIT (minor revisions)
- REJECT



The reviewers check the paper and share their comments and recommendations with the journal editor



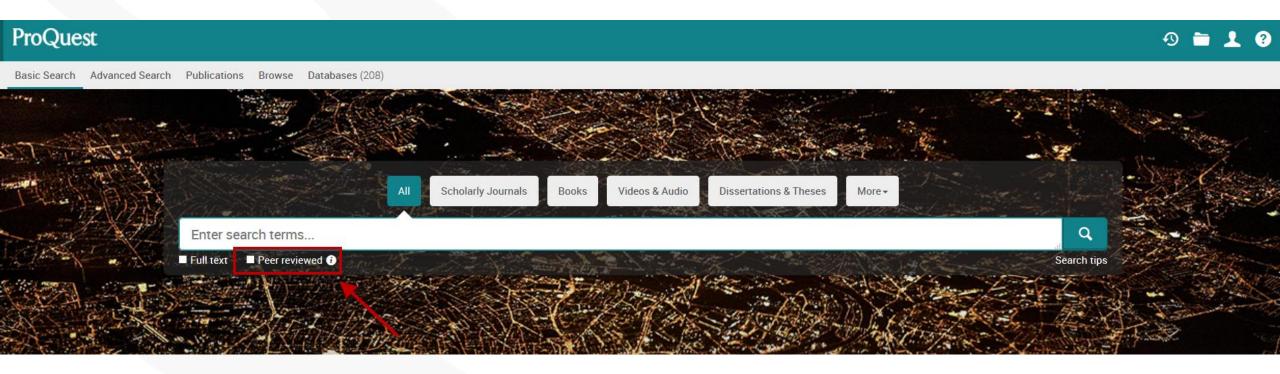
ACCEPT

REJECT

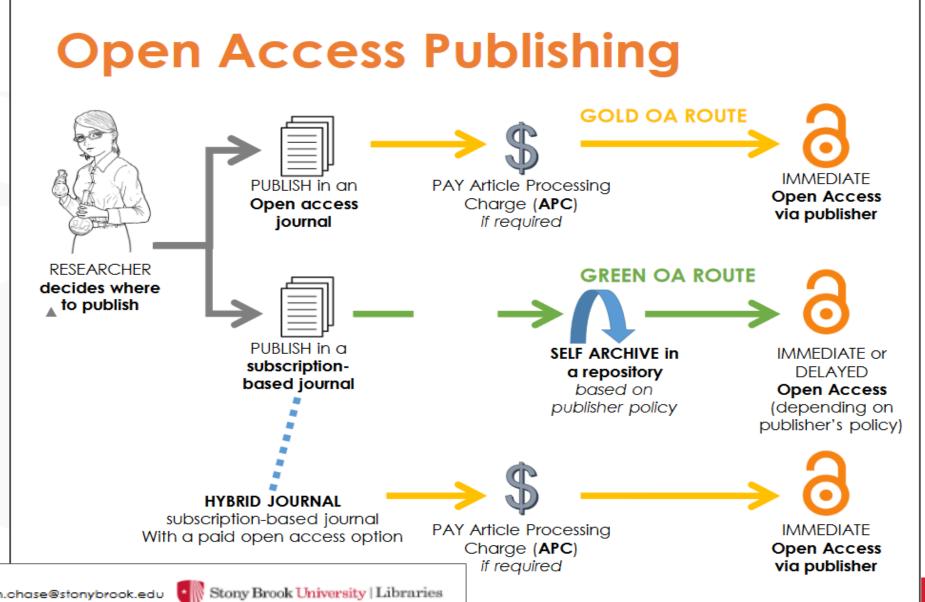
The Peer Review Process

ProQuest tip:

 Use the "Peer reviewed" filter to narrow your results to peer reviewed scholarly journals



Open Access Publishing ⁷



Predatory Publishing

Open Access model: rather than readers paying to access, author pays

System has been exploited by unscrupulous companies who

- take advantage of authors' need for publication
- publish anything that is submitted, regardless of quality

Beall's Criteria for defining "Predatory" journals or publishers 12-13

- Lack of role clarity: Journal title=publisher, publisher's owner=editor
- Editorial board lacks number and diversity; same board for different journals
- Lack of clarity around publisher location
- Many journals with little publication history
- False claims around indexing inclusion
- Poorly maintained websites, broken links
- Use of spam email to solicit manuscripts or reviewers



Find and Identify Reputable Open Access Journals: Think. Check. Submit



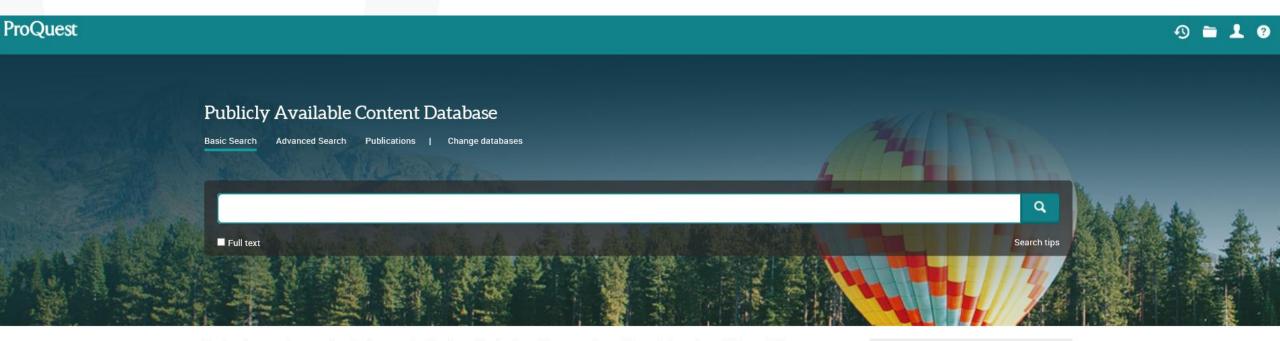


Find and Identify Reputable Open Access Journals

- How to discern reputable from predatory OA journals
- Be aware of Beall's criteria
- Use your own subject knowledge and networks: do you know any of the reviewers/editors?
- Use aggregation sites that have screened OA journals for quality: DOAJ, ProQuest
- A mixture of all 3 of these is best



ProQuest Publicly Available Content Database



Designed to complement other databases and collections, this database brings together or links to full text for publicly available scholarly content from a number of different sources from around the world. It includes content from major subject repositories such as arXiv as well as open access journals. Content includes journal articles, pre-prints, books, conference papers and reports.

View title list [2]

Also part of

Publicly Available Content Database can also be searched as part of:

- · ProQuest One Academic (1)
- · ProQuest Central Essentials 1
- · ProQuest Central 1

Want to Learn More?

Try one of these options:

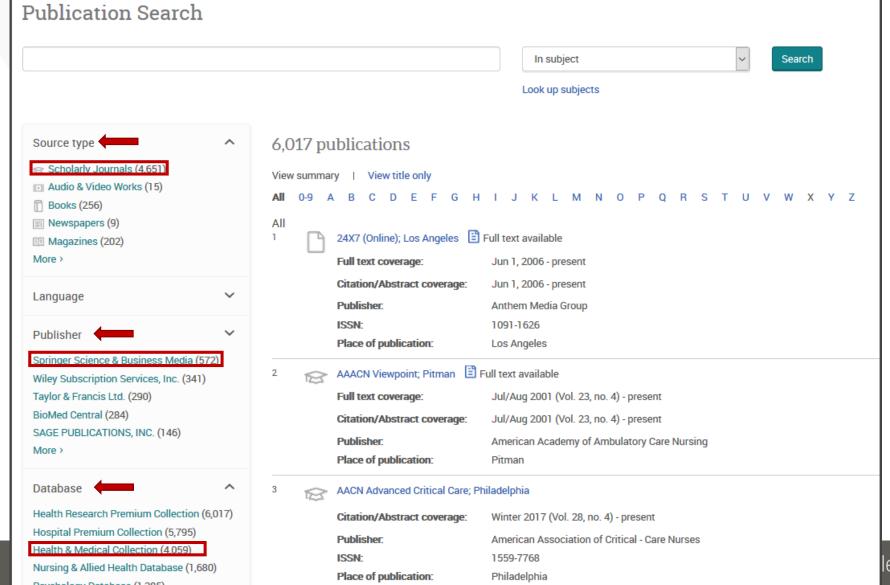
- · Search the online Help.
- Discover answers to common questions at ProQuest's Product Support Center.
- Contact Support if you need further assistance.

Search tip

By default, we will look for documents with all the terms entered.



TIP! Use the ProQuest Platform Publications Search to identify key journals to your research topic

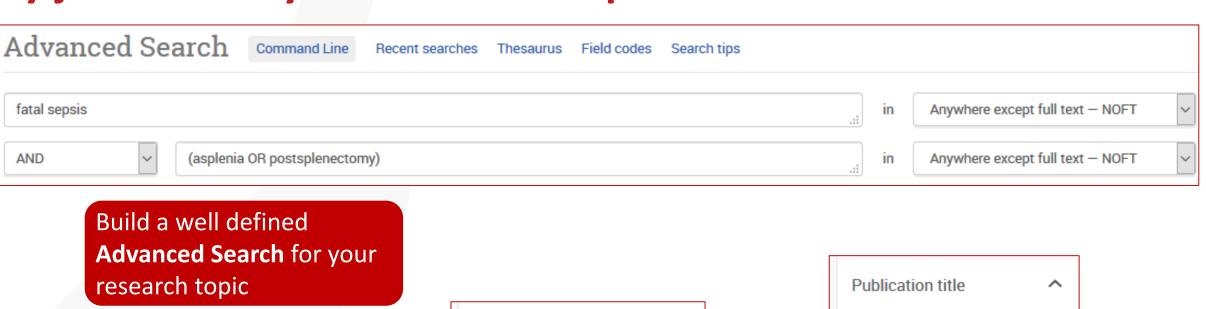


Limit by Source Type > Scholarly Journals

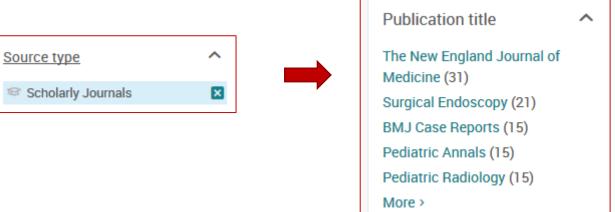
Find content for the desired subject by filtering from a specified **ProQuest collection** such as Nursing or Psychology

Locate content from recognized publishers such as BMJ, CUP, Emerald, Elsevier, Nature, Springer, Taylor & Francis...

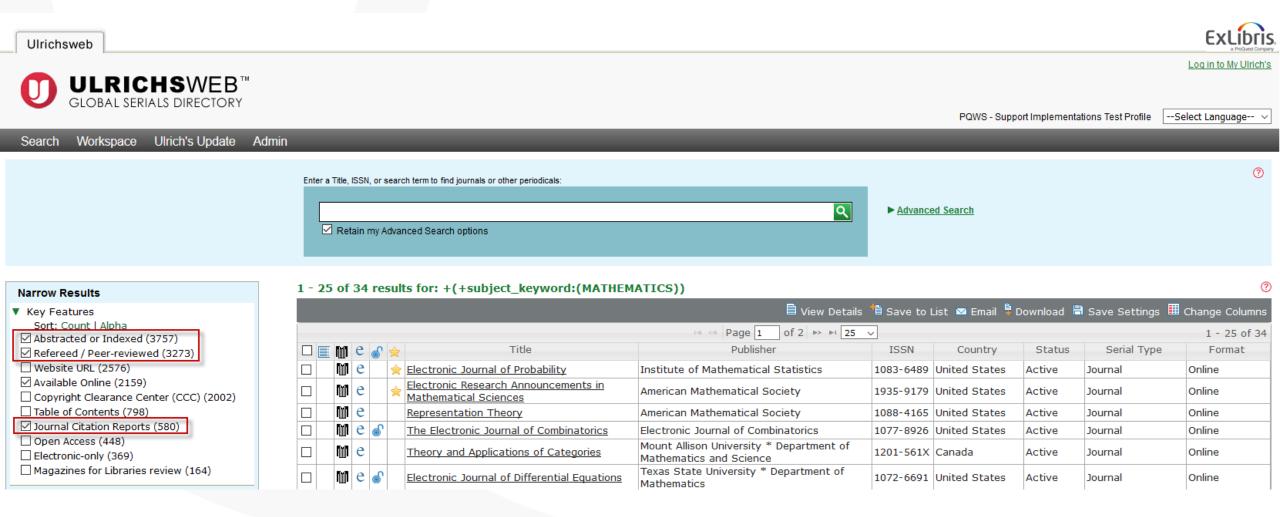
TIP! Use the ProQuest Platform Advanced Search to identify key journals to your research topic



Once you get your search results, look at your left-hand side filters and select to find content from a specific scholarly journal



TIP! Use the wealth of filtering capabilities of Ulrichsweb.com to identify key journals to your research topic



3. Write Well!

"Respect your audience. Do not make them have to work to figure out what you're trying to say or what the structure of your story is." $\frac{14}{}$

"Ask a colleague to check your work. One of the problems that journal editors face is badly written papers." ²

"Your thesis could be anywhere from 80,000 to 100,000 words and you are writing a journal paper (depending on the discipline) of normally between 6,000 and 12,000 words." $\frac{5}{2}$

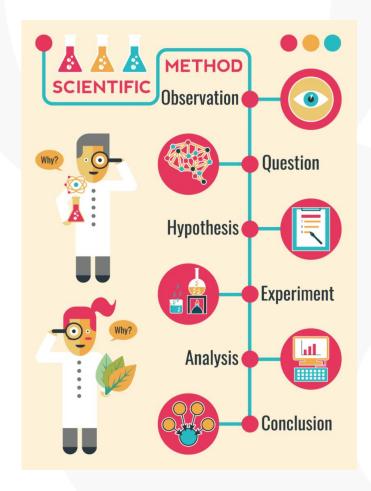
ProQuest tip:

- Keep a My Research folder of specific articles you have found that read well.
- Analyse their structure; what is it that makes these clear and easy to read and understand?
- Use these to guide the structure of your own writing.

Write a good abstract! The abstract is the first section (and might be the only section) that is read by journal editors when deciding whether to send your manuscript for review $\frac{22}{3}$.



3. Write Well! (cont.)



"The basic structure of a paper needs what is summarized by the acronym **IMRaD**, which stands for:

- Introduction (What question was asked / what hypothesis was tested?)
- **M**ethods (How was it studied?)
- Results (What was found / was the tested hypothesis true?)
- and
- **D**iscussion (What do findings mean?)" 15

CITE, CITE and CITE WELL!

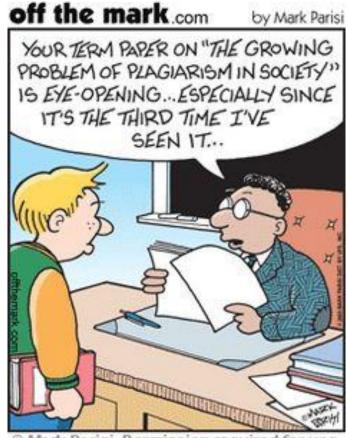
3. Cite, Cite and Cite Well! (cont.)

Why?

- Gives credit to the authors
- Allows duplicate your research and locate your referenced sources
- Proves you have conducted extensive research on topic

How?

- Include your cited source within the text in brackets (citation) and the list of references at the end of the paper
- Use a Bibliographic management tool, e.g. RefWorks



O Mark Parisi, Permission required for use.

Copyright infringement vs plagiarism



Copyright infringement is using someone else's work without getting that person's permission $\frac{17}{100}$.

- As an author, you need to ensure that you get permission to use content you have not created
- You should supply written confirmation from the copyright holder when submitting your manuscript

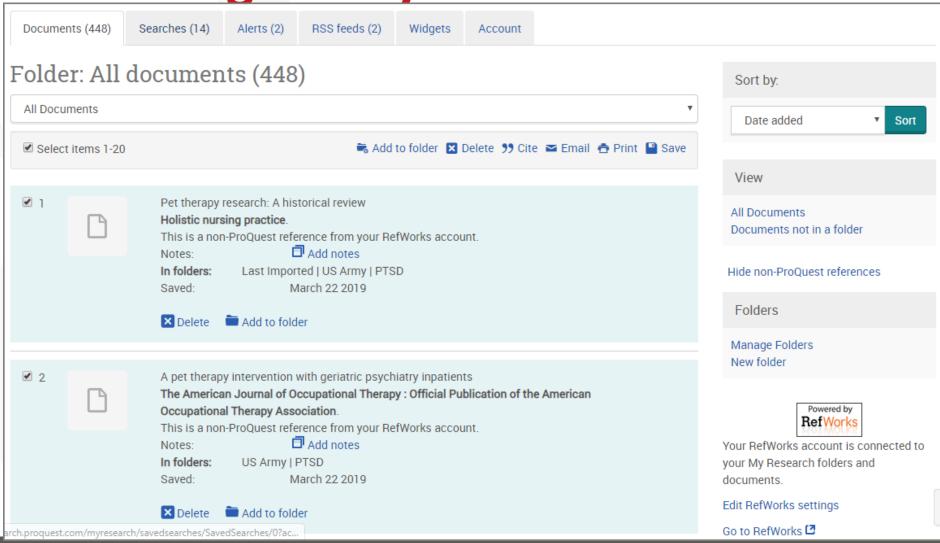
Plagiarism is using someone else's work or ideas without giving proper credit. In other words, because you are not giving attribution to the owner of the original work or idea -- you are presenting the idea or thought as your own—17.

"You should avoid plagiarism because you aspire to produce work of the highest quality. Once you have grasped the principles of source use and citation, you should find it relatevely straighforward to steer clear of plagiarism" 18

ProQuest tip:

Use RefWorks, or the ProQuest platform citation tools, to ensure simple and seamless management of your bibliography and cited references

TIP! Use the ProQuest Platform My Research Account to organize your research



TIP! Use the ProQuest Platform My Research Account to organize your research



4. Follow Submission Guidelines

"Manuscript submission guidelines checklist should include the following golden rules: Have you used the right references, e.g. Harvard, APA, Vancouver, Chicago? Have you stayed within the word limit?." $\frac{1}{2}$

"Often authors don't spend the 10 minutes it takes to read the instructions to authors, which wastes enormous quantities of time for both the author and the editor and stretches the process when it does not need to." $\frac{2}{}$

"Some articles are rejected immediately without being sent out to peer reviewers. The most usual reasons for this are inappropriate topics for the journal and poor English." 16

ProQuest tip:

Use RefWorks, or the ProQuest
 Platform citation tools, to ensure simple and seamless management of your bibliography and cited references, and correct presentation of these in your work

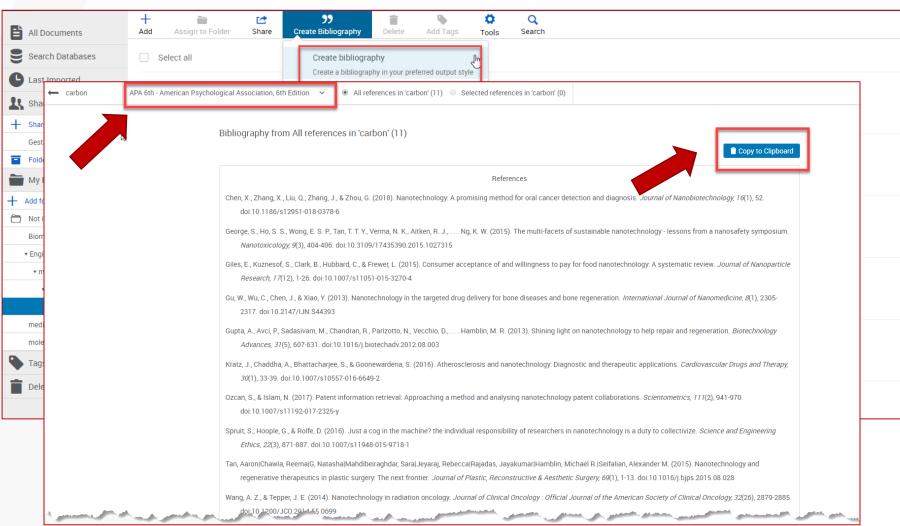
"A good cover letter can help to "sell" your manuscript to the journal editor. As well as introducing your work to the editor you can also take this opportunity to explain why the manuscript will be of interest to a journal's readers, something which is always as the forefront editors' mind." $\frac{23}{2}$

TIP! Use RefWorks to ensure your cited references and bibliography are correct

You can create a simple bibliography from a folder or from selected references

The bibliography can be copied to your clipboard

You can change the style from the drop down menu on the top



5. Accept Feedback and Revise Accordingly

"You'd be surprised how many authors, who receive the standard 'revise and resubmit' letter, never actually do so" $\frac{2}{3}$

"A rejection is often the first step to an acceptance...Read, reflect and act on feedback from the reviewers and editors, use it to write a better version of the paper, and submit it to another journal." 5

"Treat comments given to you by these reviewers with respect and react to them constructively. After all, these reviewers are trying to help you write the best article you can write.." $\frac{16}{100}$

ProQuest tip:

- Go back to Ulrichsweb.com and search for another journal...
- Go back to Pivot and discuss the paper further with scholars in your network

Research Impact Metrics

"Most of the published work goes unnoticed even by academics working in the same field. Around 98% of articles in the arts and humanities and 75% in the social sciences are never cited. Things are slightly better in the hard sciences, as 25% of the published articles are never cited..." $\frac{20}{20}$

"In this era of knowledge, enourmous research work is being published by various modes of publications. Many of them are used by other researchers with due citations. Traditionally these citations are measured by **Bibliometrics**. Over a period of time publication platforms changed from traditional counting to web based counting called **Webometrics**. People are using information from any scholarly publications and mention in their blog, Twitter account, Facebook or any other social media. These mentions are as important as citations for an author's tenure and promotions. To calculate this entire web based mentions an alternative metrics method is coined 'as **Altmetrics**'" 21



5 Tips for Getting Published - Summary

Write well!

- Your thesis is too long Clear structure, strong abstract, appropriately used data and citations
- Be clear on the context. of your research and the gap you are filling
- Ask colleagues to give you feedback

Follow the submission rules are submitting to

- Avoid the 'Desk Reject'
- journal at a time

and requirements of the journal you

• Submit to only one

- Know your field
 - Previous research
 - Key researchers
 - Key journals
- OA or not OA? (to follow)

aggregation

Pick the

subject

right journal

Best fit for your

• Do you know the

editorial board?

 Journal quality and reach: Impact

factors, indexing and



Accept feedback

revise accordingly

and

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- Wiley. The peer review process. Retrieved from https://authorservices.wiley.com/Reviewers/journal-reviewers/what-is-peer-review-process.html
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- What is open access? https://www.openaccess.nl/en/what-is-open-access
- What is Open Access? https://wolfie.library.stonybrook.edu/members/dachase/buddyblog/my-posts/13176/
- https://issuu.com/snsf/docs/snsf_roads_to_oa_articles_951c6a8060e9c7



