

# Journal Ranking

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Journal ranking is used in academia to evaluate a journal's impact and quality within a discipline. It is associated with importance & prestige. The more a journal is cited, the more "important" it is in the field.

## Caveats:

- Citations are not always positive
- Certain fields cite more frequently than others. Important to look at journals within a specific subject, and not just as a whole
- Ranking systems are susceptible to inflation (ie. journals with review articles are cited more frequently)
- Not all journals are included in ranking databases

## Journal Ranking Databases:

- Journal Citation Reports (JCR)- Most popular ranking measurement is Impact Factor. Impact Factor # alone is not very useful. Sort a list of journals in a specific subject field to see where a particular journal ranks in a list. (*Subscription through Carleton University Library*).
- SCImago- Most popular ranking measurement is SJR (SCImago Journal Rank). (*Free to search on the internet*).

## Be realistic!

- If you are just starting out in writing for scholarly journals, you may not necessarily get into a high impact journal. You need to balance importance with the actual chances of getting your paper accepted.

## Need Help?

- Journal Rankings Help Page: <http://www.library.carleton.ca/help/journal-rankings>
- Writing for Publication Help Guide: <http://www.library.carleton.ca/help/writing-publication>
- Research Help Contact Information: <http://www.library.carleton.ca/services/research-help>

## Writing for Scholarly Journals Series



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