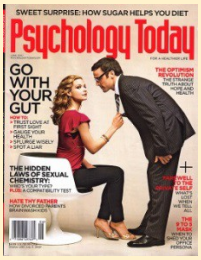
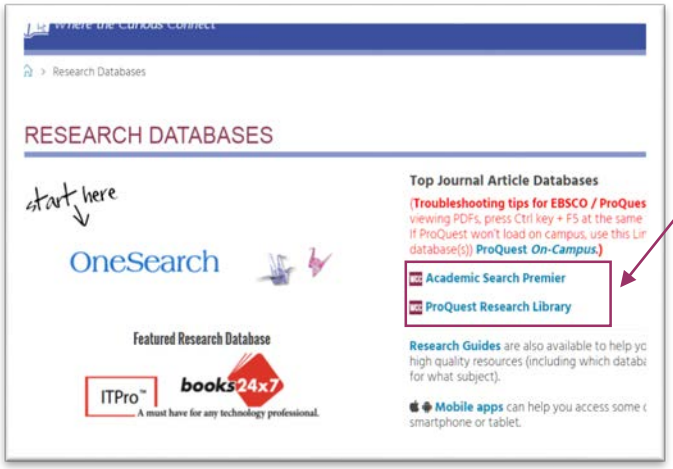
Scholarly & Non-Scholarly Sources

	Scholarly Articles	Non-Scholarly
Check **the boxes to see whether your article is scholarly or not.**		
WHO WRITES THESE ARTICLES?	☐ Scholars and researchers in the field ☐ Names & credentials are clearly stated	☐ **Journalists/staff & guest writers** ☐ **Names are not always noted**
WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THESE ARTICLES?	☐ To share the results of primary research & experiments with experts in their field of study	☐ **To inform or entertain**
WHO READS THESE ARTICLES?	☐ Subject matter experts in the field ☐ Those interested in the topic at a research level – researchers, college students, professors, etc.	☐ **Anyone**
HOW LONG ARE THEY?	☐ Articles may be lengthy, approximately 6 to 30+ pages	☐ **Articles may be short, approximately 1 to 5 pages**
WHO DECIDES WHICH ARTICES ARE PUBLISHED?	☐ Experts in the field review each article for accuracy, relevance, etc. (the peer review process)	☐ **Editors and other writers of the publication decide based on consumer appeal - no peer review**
HOW DO THESE ARTICLES LOOK?	☐ The majority have a simple black-and-white format, charts, graphs, statistics, list of references, minimal or no advertising	☐ **Lots of pictures, photographs, advertisements – designed to appeal to the general public**
DO THEY CITE THEIR SOURCES?	☐ YES - using the citation style appropriate to the discipline (APA, MLA, Chicago etc.)	☐ **Rarely - though may link to a source/mention sources informally in the text of the article**

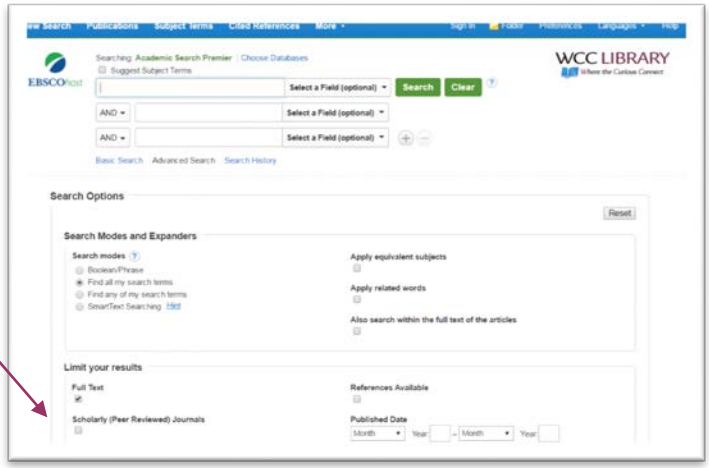
Finding Peer-reviewed Journals at WCC

To find journals in the WCC Library, choose the "Articles and Databases" selection from the library homepage



~The library's major journal collections are Academic Search Premier and ProQuest Research Library

~There are other subject-specific journal collections spread throughout the databases

~For more information, ask a Librarian

To find only "peer-reviewed" journals, select the "scholarly" or "peer-reviewed" limiter in the database