WHAT ARE ACADEMIC OR SCHOLARLY SOURCES

What is a scholarly source?

Scholarly sources (also referred to as academic, peer-reviewed, or refereed sources) are written by experts in a particular field and serve to keep others interested in that field up to date on the most recent research, findings, and news. These resources will provide the most substantial information for your research and papers

What is peer-review?

When a source has been peer-reviewed it has undergone the review and scrutiny of a review board of colleagues in the author's field. They evaluate this source as part of the body of research for a particular discipline and make recommendations regarding its publication in a journal, revisions prior to publication, or, in some cases, reject its publication.

How can I tell if a source is scholarly?

Authors

▪ Are author names provided?
▪ Are the authors' credentials provided?
▪ Are the credentials relevant to the information provided?

Publishers

▪ Who is the publisher of the information?
▪ Is the publisher an academic institution, scholarly, or professional organization?
▪ Is their purpose for publishing this information evident?

Audience

▪ Who is the intended audience of this source?
▪ Is the language geared toward those with knowledge of a specific discipline rather than the general public?

Content

▪ Why is the information being provided?
▪ Are sources cited?
▪ Are there charts, graphs, tables, and bibliographies included?
▪ Are research claims documented?
▪ Are conclusions based on evidence provided?
▪ How long is the source?

Currency/Timeliness

▪ Is the date of publication evident?

Citations

The examples below are different ways to cite academic sources in your discussions and assignments

In text Citation:

Ali and Younes (2013) observed that ……

Research shows that …… (Ali & Younes, 2013).

In text Citation:

Researchers have discussed how …… (Al-Mobaideen, 2013).

Al-Mobaideen (2013) stated that …….

In text Citation:

Anema et al. (2013) mentioned "……" (p. 20).
Research shows that…. (Anema et al., 2013, p. 20)
References

Ali, B., & Younes, B. (2013). The impact of information systems on user performance: An exploratory study. Journal of Knowledge Management, Economics & Information Technology, 3(2), 128-154.
Al-Mobaideen, H. (2013). Factors influencing the successful adoption of human resource information system: The content of Aqaba special economic zone authority. Intelligent Information Management, 5(1), 1-24
Anema, H. A., Kievit, J., Fischer, C., Steyerberg, E. W., & Klazinga, N. S. (2013). Influences of hospital information systems, indicator data collection and computation on reported Dutch hospital performance indicator scores. BMC Health Services Research, 13(1), 212-221.