Checking the open access and peer review status of journal articles

1. Search the journal article databases (above) for articles on your topic, using keywords.

2. Choose articles that are relevant to your topic.

3. Identify the journal titles, from the articles you have selected, it will be the second title in a citation, often referred to as a ‘Source’ in some library databases:
4. Search for the Journal title in Ulrich’s Periodical’s Directory:

![Ulrich's Periodical Directory](image)

5. Identify if the journal title is a) peer reviewed / refereed and, b) open access:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>ISSN</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Serial Type</th>
<th>Content Type</th>
<th>Abstracted / Indexed</th>
<th>Format</th>
<th>Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Civil Wars</td>
<td>Routledge</td>
<td>1369-8249</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>Active</td>
<td>Journal</td>
<td>Academic / Scholarly</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Online</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Wars</td>
<td>Routledge</td>
<td>1743-968X</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>Active</td>
<td>Journal</td>
<td>Academic / Scholarly</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6. If the journal is peer reviewed / refereed and not open access, go to the journal website, to find information about their peer review process.

The journal should have a blind peer review process.

7. If the journal is open access in Ulrich’s, you will need to check the title further in DOAJ

The open lock symbol means the journal is open access and needs to be checked further.
8. Go to DOAJ and check the journal title.

If the journal is open access and listed in the DOAJ, it can be used in your research paper.

If you cannot locate the title of an open access journal in the DOAJ, it cannot be used in your research paper.

If you have questions about an article or journal title you have found, you can also contact Michelle: Michelle.Lake@concordia.ca