

Traversing the Terrain of 21st Century Publishing: A Practicum

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Nursing PhD Students

Topic: Journal Selection & Authors' Rights for Graduate Students

Objectives:

- The student will be able to select a journal appropriate for their writing project.
- The student will understand their author rights as related to their selected journal.

Materials:

- Computer lab with access to the internet.
- Access to Cabell's Directory of Publishing Opportunities, Ulrich's Periodicals Directory, and Journal Citation Reports (databases)

Activities:

(5 minutes) Keyword Selection

- As part of the online session, talk to students about the importance of selecting appropriate keywords to describe their writing projects. Discuss the fact that many publishers require authors to assign keywords to their articles. Ask students to do the following:
 - From Milner's webpage, select "Article Search" to find article on your topic. Look for keywords or subjects on the record.
 - What are keywords or concepts from your readings? Keep a list!
 - Do you have a working title or abstract? What keywords can you select from them?

(10 minutes) Use Keywords to Find Potential Journals

- Introduce students to following websites that match keywords, titles, or abstracts to possible journals: JournalGuide, Journal Reviewer, Elsevier's Journal Finder, & Journal/Author Name Estimator (JANE). Ask them to use one to select two or three journal titles to review.

(10 minutes) Thinking about Journal Selection

- Give brief overview of two databases students can use to get information about potential journals -- Cabell's or Ulrich. Use Cabell's or Ulrich to compare two journals & answer these questions:
 - What are the acceptance rates of each?
 - What are the review timelines for each?
 - What type of peer review is used in each?

(10 minutes) Impact Factor & Journal Ranking

- Give brief overview of impact factor and journal ranking. Show Infographic: [Navigating the World of Citation Metrics](#). Preview Journal Citation Reports, and then ask students to use it to find the impact factor of their journals.

(15 minutes) Author's Rights & Responsibilities

- Review copyright, open access, and predatory publishing from previous instruction. Ask students to use the publisher's author submission guidelines or aims/scope to answer the following questions about their journals:

- Is the journal open access, traditional or hybrid?
- Does it offer a license (i.e. creative commons)?
- Would you consider publishing in an open access journal? Why or why not?
- Do you have concerns that your journal might be predatory in nature?

Assessment:

- Each participant can articulate an understanding of tools used, authors' rights, and their publication goals.
- Librarians will meet with PhD students individually to review journal selections.

ACRL Information Literacy Framework:

- Authority is Constructed and Contextual: Knowledge Practices 2 & 3
- Information Creation as a Process: Knowledge Practices 2, 3, & 4
- Information Has Value: Knowledge Practices: 2, 3, 6, & 7
- Scholarship as Conversation: Knowledge Practice 2
- Searching as Strategic Exploration: Knowledge Practices 4 & 5