

## **E-JOURNALS**

**Electronic journals**, also known as **ejournals**, **e-journals**, and **electronic serials**, are scholarly journals or intellectual magazines that can be accessed via electronic transmission. An electronic journal is a periodical publication which is published in electronic format, usually on the Internet. Online journal articles are a specialized form of electronic document: they have the purpose of providing material for academic research and study, and they are formatted approximately like journal articles in traditional printed journals.

### **Advantages of e- journals over printed journals**

Electronic journals have several advantages over traditional printed journals:

- You can search the contents pages and/or the full text of journals to find articles on a certain subject.
- You can read journal articles on your desktop, you don't have to be in the Library.
- You can e-mail articles to yourself or download them for printing.
- The article that you want to read will always be available, even when the Library is closed.
- Hypertext links allow you to move to different sections within individual journals or articles and can link you to related resources on the Internet.
- Journals can include more images and audio-visual material.
- Journals can be interactive - you can e-mail the author or editor with your comments

### **Various names:**

- Online journals
- Electronic serials or e-serials
- Electronic periodicals
- Zines or e-zines or webzines
- Digital serials or d-journals

### **E-journals are two type:**

- Born digital: they are solely published on the web, in digital format.
- Combined journal (electronic journals originate as print journal. Still maintaining a print component) (should preferably have an ISSN number)

Some journals are 'born digital' in that they are solely published on the web and in a digital format, but most electronic journals originated as print journals, which subsequently evolved to have an electronic version, while still maintaining a print component. As academic research habits have changed in line with the growth of the internet, the e-journal has come to dominate the journals world.

With the growth and development of the internet, there has been a growth in the number of new journals, especially in those that exist as digital publications only. A subset of these journals exist as Open Access titles, meaning that they are free to access for all, and have

Creative Commons licences which permit the reproduction of content in different ways. High quality open access journals are listed in Directory of Open Access Journals. Most however continue to exist as subscription journals, for which libraries, organisations and individuals purchase access

### **Characters of e-journals**

1. Presents a table of contents, which list articles
2. Uses volume/issue model
3. Paper title publish on a continuous basis
4. They have a specialized form of electronic document (doi)
5. Articles are indexed in bibliographic databases, as well as by search engines.
6. Article can be download in two format
  - PDF
  - HTML
7. Other electronic file types are often supported for supplementary material.
  - XML
  - SGML
  - MATHML
  - PS
8. New type online content also available with article (video, data set on which research has been based)
9. Accelerated publication
  - For author –accelerated submission
  - For reviewer –accelerated review process
  - For author accelerated revision
  - For aggregator/service provider-accelerated mounting
  - Articles available much before available in print such as
    - Online first in case of Springer
    - Online Early in case of Blackwell Synergy
    - Articles in Press in Case of ScienceDirect
10. Searchability
  - Simple search
  - Advanced search
  - This Journal
  - All journals on the site
  - Journals in a subject cluster
  - Examples
    - ScienceDirect, SpringerLink

- HTML advantages
  - More options for linking, searching and supplementing the text
  - Loads quickly as file size is smaller than PDF
  - Easy to index
- HTML Disadvantages
  - More labor intensive to produce
  - Troublesome to print fragmented documents
  - Requires a separate production process from that of print journal
  - Display may change with different browsers
- PDF Advantages
  - Stable manageable and cost-effective for publishers
  - Familiar look for users
  - Easy conversion of legacy print
- PDF Disadvantages
  - Requires additional plug-in i.e. Acrobat Reader
  - Large Files –can cause annoyance with slow bandwidth
- Publication
  - Open access journal exist as digital publications only have ‘Creative Commons Licences’
  - High quality open access journals, listed in ‘Directory of Open Access Journals’.

Many are subscribe journal, available for purchase to libraries, organizations and individuals

#### **AGGREGATORS DATABASE**

- It is a secondary information resources and provide link from library’s web page to table of content
  - Ebscohost
  - Proquest
  - Lexis-Nexis
  - FirestSearch

## **BENEFIT TO USERS**

- Independent of space and time
- Interact with other electronic resources
- Save user's time (Ranganthan's fourth Law)
- Provides value addition such as searchability, supplements, formats unavailable in print formats
- Accelerated publication
- Can be read by multiple users simultaneously
- Can not be mutilated, stolen, lost vandalized etc etc.

## **BENEFIT TO LIBRARIES**

- Superior resource delivery
- Improved service
- Potentiality of accurate usage to help collection development decisions
- Cost savings
- Reduced shelving, binding, maintenance, claiming
- Public relation opportunities
- Provided and opportunity for concrete user education
- Satisfied users
- Simultaneous access

## **Constraints of e journals**

- Low bandwidth
- Availability of proper hardware and software
- Occasional breakdown of Internet
- IP blocking by the Content Provider
- Shifting URLs
- Shifting contents
- Embargoes
- IP Issues