Do you need to determine if your article is scholarly?

Here is a checklist to use to help you make the decision. Look at each article and make sure it meets most of these qualifications.

- Often start with an abstract, or summary, of the article.
- Include footnotes or bibliographies.
- Generally are longer than articles in popular or news magazines.
- Are reviewed (refereed) by an editorial board and revised before being accepted for publication.
- Include the language, or jargon, of the subject discipline. It assumes some degree of subject knowledge by the reader.
- Report original research or experimentation results.
- Are authored by subject experts, researchers, or scholars in their fields. Author credentials are frequently listed.
- Are published by professional organizations, such as the American Medical Association (Journal of the American Medical Association), or the National Council on Family Relations (Journal of Marriage and the Family).

Not every article is going to meet all of these qualifications, but the article should meet most of them.