Find Top Journals for a Topic using Web of Science

This step-by-step guide shows you how to find top journals using the Web of Science database based on journal rankings and total articles published on a topic.
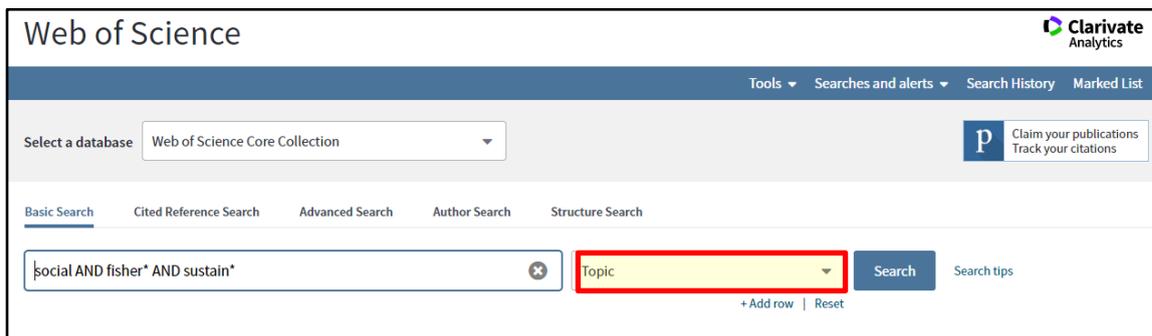
When to use this guide
- Making decisions about where or where *not* to publish
- Finding journals on a narrow or specific topic
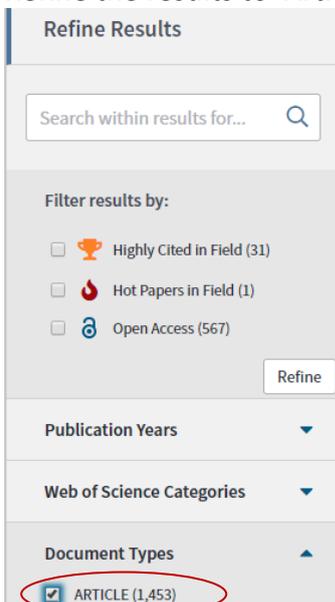- Finding journals where your topic crosses multiple disciplines

When choosing where to publish, we recommend checking in first with your supervisor and faculty research office as there may be specific policies or advice that applies to you.

Searching the Web of Science database

1. Do a topic search
   (Tip: use a range of keywords that are likely to be used by other academics)

2. Refine the results to 'Article'

3. Select 'Analyze Results'

4. Click on "Source Title" to see journals that the most published on a topic.

5. To check the Journal Impact Factor (JIF) & ranking:
   - Select a journal and click on "View Records" to see articles in that journal

- Click on the journal title to see Impact Factor, Rank in Category and Quartile in Category

MARINE POLICY

Impact Factor

2.865 **3.149**
2018 5 year

JCR® Category	Rank in Category	Quartile in Category
ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES	40 of 116	Q2
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS	9 of 91	Q1

Data from the 2018 edition of Journal Citation Reports

Publisher
ELSEVIER SCI LTD, THE BOULEVARD, LANGFORD LANE, KIDLINGTON, OXFORD OX5 1GB, OXON, ENGLAND

ISSN: 0308-597X
eISSN: 1872-9460

Research Domain
Environmental Sciences & Ecology
International Relations

Close Window

Glossary

Journal Impact Factor or JIF is a metric that measures a journal's citation impact. It is calculated on an annual basis and uses citation data from the Web of Science Core Collection database. **JIF** shows the average citations for a full calendar year.

Journal Impact Factor Calculation

$$\text{2018 Journal Impact Factor} = \frac{1,862}{650} = 2.865$$

How is Journal Impact Factor Calculated?

$$JIF = \frac{\text{Citations in 2018 to items published in 2016 (1,013) + 2017 (849)}}{\text{Number of citable items in 2016 (313) + 2017 (337)}} = \frac{1,862}{650}$$