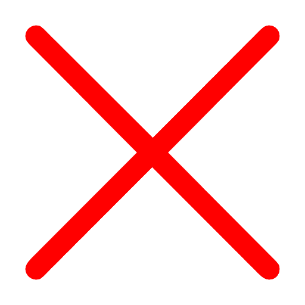
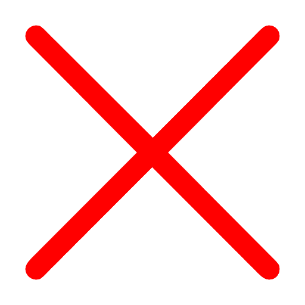
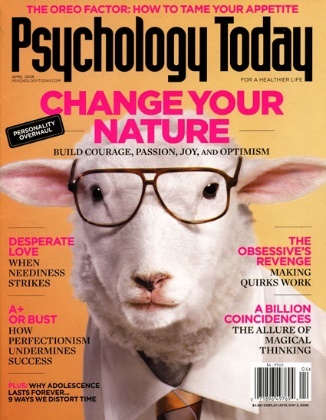
College-level sources

# What is a college-level source?

A college-level source is a source that is neither too simple for you, nor too advanced. You currently study in a program. As you do this, you are becoming a professional in that field: You know more and more about it, more than average people who study in different fields, but less maybe than your teachers, for example. Similarly, texts you can read, physically or online, can be divided into categories based on how specialized they are.

## General-public publications and quick web searches: Too basic for college-level sources

General-public publications can be interesting to anyone, regardless of education, and cover all subjects. Newspapers are the perfect example of this. They are not written for specialists. The first result on Google for any search is another good example. In general, if I google “dental health,” the first result will most probably be a general-public introduction, not any kind of specialized text that would be useful to a dentist. These publications are not appropriate for this project for the same reason.

## Trade magazines: College-level

Trade magazines are specific to one field of studies and are interesting only to people interested in that field. These are the kinds of magazines that you see when you are in a classy waiting room for a dentist, doctor, financial planner, auto repair shop, etc. They are more difficult to read than general-purpose publications because they assume you already know something about the field, but they are still readable by non-specialists who are educated or intellectually curious. These publications are perfectly appropriate for college-level work, though you should avoid the smaller, press release-type articles they also publish.

## Long-read magazines: College-level

These are magazines or newspapers that often publish long, in-depth reports on specific subjects. They mainly target people with some sort of higher education. In terms of content, while they focus on current events, they will generally touch on all issues facing us today, from poverty to space exploration, medical research, technological innovations, business and the economy, etc. These publications are also perfectly appropriate for college-level work, as long as you avoid the shorter articles they also publish.

## Academic publications: Too specialized for now

In you go to university in your field of studies, you will meet professors. These professors must do original research in that field, and then publish it. What they publish is generally only interesting to other professors, so it does not get published in mass market magazine. It instead gets published in very specialized academic publications. These very advanced texts are university-level, and so not recommended for college-level readers. They are not appropriate as sources for this course.

**Self-improvement tip: Make it a habit to read from college-level magazines in your field of study, in any language.**

# Specific sources (yes, you HAVE TO use them)

## Long-read magazines (useful for many fields; start here!)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Topic | Magazine | Website |
| General / society / issues | The Conversation | [theconversation.com/ca](https://theconversation.com/ca) |
| General / society / issues | Vox | [www.vox.com](http://www.vox.com) |
| General / society / issues | Harvard Business Review | [hbr.org](https://hbr.org/) |
| General / society / issues | Forbes | [www.forbes.com](http://www.forbes.com) |
| News, issues, culture (ca) | The Walrus | [www.thewalrus.ca](http://www.thewalrus.ca) |
| News, issues, culture (us) | Time Magazine | [www.time.com](http://www.time.com) |
| The world (natural or cultural) | National Geographic | [www.nationalgeographic.com](http://www.nationalgeographic.com) |
| Diversity: Black culture | Ebony | [www.ebony.com](http://www.ebony.com) |
| Diversity: First nation (ca) | Muskrat Magazine | [muskratmagazine.com](http://muskratmagazine.com/) |
| Diversity: First nation (ca) | Say Magazine | [www.saymag.com](http://www.saymag.com) |
| Diversity: Women / gender | Herizons | [www.herizons.ca](http://www.herizons.ca) |
| Diversity: Women / gender | Bitch Media | [www.bitchmedia.org](http://www.bitchmedia.org) |
| Diversity: Women / gender | Ms. Magazine | [msmagazine.com](https://msmagazine.com) |

## Long-read magazines focused on one general field

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Topic | Magazine | Website |
| Science | Discover | [www.discovermagazine.com](http://www.discovermagazine.com) |
| Science | Popular Science | [www.popsci.com](http://www.popsci.com) |
| Science | Scientific American | [www.scientificamerican.com](http://www.scientificamerican.com) |
| Humanities (in general) | Behavioral scientist | [behavioralscientist.org](http://www.behavioralscientist.org) |
| Humanities: Anthropology | Sapiens | [www.sapiens.org](http://www.sapiens.org/) |
| Humanities: Economics | The Conversation’s business section | <https://theconversation.com/ca/business> |
| Humanities: Economics | Time Magazine’s Economics section | <https://time.com/tag/economics/> |
| Humanities: History | National Geographic (history) | [www.nationalgeographic.com/history](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/history) |
| Humanities: History | Canada’s History | [www.canadashistory.ca](http://www.canadashistory.ca) |
| Humanities: History | History Today | [www.historytoday.com](https://www.historytoday.com/) |
| Humanities: Psychology | Psychology Today | [www.psychologytoday.com](http://www.psychologytoday.com/c)  Note: If it says “Forbidden,” it is blocking the cegep network. Try from your cellphone or from home. |
| Humanities: Sociology | Sociological Review | [thesociologicalreview.org](https://thesociologicalreview.org/) |
| Fine arts: Cinema | Bright Lights Film Journal | [brightlightsfilm.com](https://brightlightsfilm.com/) |
| Fine arts: Cinema | Cineaste | [www.cineaste.com](http://www.cineaste.com) |
| Fine arts: Cinema | Cinema Scope | [cinema-scope.com](https://cinema-scope.com/) |
| Fine arts: Documentary | Documentary Magazine | [www.documentary.org/magazine](https://www.documentary.org/magazine) |
| Fine arts: Documentary | POV Magazine | [povmagazine.com](https://povmagazine.com/) |
| Fine arts: Photography | Aperture | [aperture.org](https://aperture.org/) |
| Fine arts: Visual arts | Canadian Art | [canadianart.ca](https://canadianart.ca/) |
| Fine arts: Visual arts | Applied Arts | [www.appliedartsmag.com](http://www.appliedartsmag.com) |
| Fine arts: Writing | Writer’s Digest | [www.writersdigest.com](http://www.writersdigest.com) |
| Fine arts: Writing | The Writer | [www.writermag.com](http://www.writermag.com) |

## Trade magazines (more useful for applied fields, like technical programs)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Topic | Magazine | Website |
| Architecture | ArchDaily | [www.archdaily.com](https://www.archdaily.com/) |
| Architecture | Dazeen | [www.dezeen.com](https://www.dezeen.com/) |
| Architecture | Canadian Architect | [www.canadianarchitect.com](http://www.canadianarchitect.com) |
| Architecture | Architect Magazine | [www.architectmagazine.com](http://www.architectmagazine.com) |
| Business (ca) | The Canadian Business Journal | [www.cbj.ca](http://www.cbj.ca) |
| Business (us) | Fortune | [fortune.com](https://fortune.com/) |
| Farm management | Successful Farming | [www.agriculture.com](http://www.agriculture.com) |
| Insurance | Insurance Business Canada | [www.insurancebusinessmag.com/ca/](https://www.insurancebusinessmag.com/ca/) |
| Management | Inc. | [www.inc.com](http://www.inc.com) |
| Management | Fast Company | [www.fastcompany.com](http://www.fastcompany.com) |
| Mechanical Eng. | Popular Mechanics | [www.popularmechanics.com](http://www.popularmechanics.com) |
| Mechanical Eng. | Mechanical Engineering Magazine | [www.asmedigitalcollection.asme.org/memagazineselect](http://www.asmedigitalcollection.asme.org/memagazineselect) |
| Mechanical Eng. | Industrial Lasers Magazine | [www.industrial-lasers.com/magazine](https://www.industrial-lasers.com/magazine) |
| Medical electrophys. | Heart Matters Magazine | [www.bhf.org.uk/informationsupport/heart-matters-magazine](http://www.bhf.org.uk/informationsupport/heart-matters-magazine) |
| Medical imaging | The Beat (Ottawa Heart Institute) | [www.ottawaheart.ca/the-beat](http://www.ottawaheart.ca/the-beat) |
| Medical imaging | Radiology Today | [www.radiologytoday.net](http://www.radiologytoday.net) |
| Medical imaging | Radiology Business | [www.radiologybusiness.com](http://www.radiologybusiness.com) |
| Nursing | Canadian Nurse | [www.canadian-nurse.com](http://www.canadian-nurse.com) |
| Personal finance (ca) | MoneySense | [www.moneysense.ca](http://www.moneysense.ca) |
| Personal finance (ca) | Globe and Mail: Personal Finance | [www.theglobeandmail.com/investing/personal-finance/](https://www.theglobeandmail.com/investing/personal-finance/) |
| Personal finance (us) | Money | [www.money.com](http://www.money.com) |
| Personal finance (us) | Kiplinger | [www.kiplinger.com](http://www.kiplinger.com) |
| Robotics | Servo Magazine | [www.servomagazine.com](http://www.servomagazine.com) |
| Secretarial work | Executive Secretary | [www.executivesecretary.com](http://www.executivesecretary.com) |
| Social work | Social Work Today | [www.socialworktoday.com](http://www.socialworktoday.com) |
| Technology | Computer World | [www.computerworld.com](http://www.computerworld.com) |
| Technology | PCMag | [www.pcmag.com](http://www.pcmag.com) |
| Technology | Wired | [www.wired.com](http://www.wired.com) |

# How do I know if I am in an information cult?

If you get information from someone who tells you to avoid the mainstream sources that I just discussed, because for their subject, commonly-respected sources are unreliable, that they may be trying to hide “the truth” from you, then this person is probably in a cult-like community that has become disconnected from normal society and that is trying to dissociate you as well from normal society.

This can easily happen to people who become obsessed with information on any specific subject, and the solution is to restore balance to your life and “unfollow” those people giving you that information. You don’t have to change your mind: Just have a healthier, more balanced life, where you are not constantly researching the same topic over and over.

# What about videos?

Usually, you will not use videos as a source for a research essay. For discussions, tough, you will need at least one video. You can use videos from a recognized mainstream educational organization, like TED. You can also use some Youtubers if they are particularly serious: Reliable, fairly neutral and mainstream, they tell you what their sources are, and those sources are neutral, reliable. Avoid video personalities that are very combative, trying to tell you the “real truth,” etc. List of recommended news organizations: TED, Big Think, Vox, BBC Reel, Harvard Business Review.