Impact Factors for the Humanities

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ABSTRACT

Compared to natural sciences and engineering disciplines, scholars in the humanities tend to have much more modest profiles on Google Scholar, ResearchGate, or Academia. This poster presents a study of research/scholarship impact factors in the humanities comparing the parameters included in the IF calculation and their "fit" with different fields of humanistic inquiries. The study pays particular attention to altmetrics that go beyond citation-based metrics and asks what works, efforts, and scholarly activities in the humanities remain invisible and unaccounted for. Based on the findings, the author makes suggestions about the role and contribution of scholarly communication librarians in assisting humanities scholars with interpreting IF and selecting those that would allow them to better communicate their research to various stakeholders, to fine-tune their publication strategies, formats, and dissemination channels that would best highlight their achievements and their contributions to the discipline and their value to their institutions and larger communities.

ALISE RESEARCH TAXONOMY TOPICS

bibliometrics; altmetrics; scholarly communication.

AUTHOR KEYWORDS

scholarly communication; research productivity; citations; impact factors; altmetrics.