

REVIEW OF JOURNALS-2: “Journal of Documentation”

Alexandre López-Borrull

Department of Information and Communication sciences
Universitat Oberta de Catalunya
e-mail: alopezbo@uoc.edu



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Scientific journals are always a good source of references to be updated on all the new knowledge that is always being generated in our field of expertise. That is why most scientists always end up having a certain set of preferred journals and magazines, and this is explained by the fact that journals, even in our field, tend to position themselves in certain areas of knowledge, (in technological terms or in other terms)

One of the most veteran and respected journals in the Documentation field is *Journal of Documentation*. It began publishing in 1945, with four volumes per year. Currently, six issues are published each year. When other journals choose quantity, *Journal of Documentation* chooses quality, so that at the end of the year only few more than 30 articles are published. Note that articles are in *.pdf or *.html format, and that all the journal has been digitalized since its first volumes back in 1945.

Regarding the subject of the articles, the focus of the journal is very broad, and therefore we can find together articles on very different subjects, such as classical librarianship, documentation, Knowledge management, Recovery of information, Studies on users, or digital editing. This large range of subjects is what makes this journal to be considered general and important within the Information Sciences. With regard to the type of articles, the journal includes not only academic articles but also reviews of articles on issues like documentation. In general though, the journal tends to go towards conceptual and theoretical models within the Information Sciences, but it also publishes reports, relevant research articles or articles on academic-educational issues. The process of peer evaluation, the peer review, is a double-blind process, ie peer-review done maintaining anonymity of the reviewers and authors.

As for the impact factor of the journal, it has a value of 1439 from the JCR Social Sciences (ISI Journal Citation Reports). This information is best put into context when one considers that the journal appears under the category “Information Science & Library Science” in ninth place out of 53 journals in the topics considered by ISI. Also, the average life expectancy of citations is high, with a value of 8.8 years, which means that articles continue to be cited well beyond the year in which they were published.

In conclusion, it can be considered as one of the journals of reference in this field, given its history and the importance and impact that its articles have even today.