

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:01,933

[Upbeat music]

2

00:00:01,933 --> 00:00:04,700

[Music]

3

00:00:04,700 --> 00:00:07,800

In your college classes you might hear

4

00:00:07,800 --> 00:00:09,733

some of your professors explain the

5

00:00:09,733 --> 00:00:11,966

concept of a "scholarly conversation"

6

00:00:11,966 --> 00:00:15,933

through the metaphor of a party. At this

7

00:00:15,933 --> 00:00:18,600

party you've arrived late and you don't

8

00:00:18,600 --> 00:00:20,966

know anyone. You approach a group engaged

9

00:00:20,966 --> 00:00:23,300

in conversation and you have to spend

10

00:00:23,300 --> 00:00:25,466

some time listening, so you understand

11

00:00:25,466 --> 00:00:28,200

what they're talking about. Eventually

12

00:00:28,200 --> 00:00:30,466

you'll be able to add some ideas of your

13

00:00:30,466 --> 00:00:30,700

14

00:00:30,700 --> 00:00:33,666

own to the discussion. Here's how this

15

00:00:33,666 --> 00:00:35,666

metaphor applies when you're doing

16

00:00:35,666 --> 00:00:38,333

research. As you read a scholarly article

17

00:00:38,333 --> 00:00:41,033

you'll see that the author is making

18

00:00:41,033 --> 00:00:43,500

references to other researchers - both

19

00:00:43,500 --> 00:00:46,300

within the text of the article and in a

20

00:00:46,300 --> 00:00:49,866

long list of citations at the end. The

21

00:00:49,866 --> 00:00:51,666

author might be building on someone

22

00:00:51,666 --> 00:00:54,666

else's ideas, comparing the findings of

23

00:00:54,666 --> 00:00:58,000

two or more scholars, or even arguing

24

00:00:58,000 --> 00:01:01,300

against another researcher's theories. But

25

00:01:01,300 --> 00:01:03,233

unlike sources you're more familiar with -

26

00:01:03,233 --> 00:01:06,233

like news and magazine articles - you see

27

00:01:06,233 --> 00:01:08,966

the conversation documented every step

28

00:01:08,966 --> 00:01:11,666

of the way. The scholar who wrote this

29

00:01:11,666 --> 00:01:14,700

article was once a lot like you - entering

30

00:01:14,700 --> 00:01:17,533

the party for the first time and walking

31

00:01:17,533 --> 00:01:19,233

into the middle of an unfamiliar

32

00:01:19,233 --> 00:01:22,233

conversation. She thought the party was

33

00:01:22,233 --> 00:01:25,066

so much fun she decided to stay, which

34

00:01:25,066 --> 00:01:27,800

meant going to school to earn a PhD and

35

00:01:27,800 --> 00:01:30,400

become an expert in her field, getting a

36

00:01:30,400 --> 00:01:33,400

job as a professor, and contributing to

37

00:01:33,400 --> 00:01:35,566

the conversation by researching and

38

00:01:35,566 --> 00:01:37,766

writing articles and publishing them in

39

00:01:37,766 --> 00:01:41,033

academic journals. Publishing an article

40

00:01:41,033 --> 00:01:43,166

in an academic journal is one of the

41

00:01:43,166 --> 00:01:45,300

main ways a professor can make a new

42

00:01:45,300 --> 00:01:48,166

contribution to a scholarly conversation.

43

00:01:48,166 --> 00:01:51,066

The author submits her work to a journal

44

00:01:51,066 --> 00:01:53,700

and it will be vetted by an editor as

45

00:01:53,700 --> 00:01:56,466

well as a selected group of peer

46

00:01:56,466 --> 00:01:59,533

reviewers, who are professors and experts

47

00:01:59,533 --> 00:02:02,933

in the same area of study. During the

48

00:02:02,933 --> 00:02:05,200

peer-review-process, authors are often

49

00:02:05,200 --> 00:02:06,900

asked to revise their work before

50

00:02:06,900 --> 00:02:09,400

publication, and some articles get

51

00:02:09,400 --> 00:02:12,200

rejected. Journal articles are considered

52

00:02:12,200 --> 00:02:13,733

credible, quality

53

00:02:13,733 --> 00:02:15,400

sources because they're written by

54

00:02:15,400 --> 00:02:17,300

experts and go through a great deal of

55

00:02:17,300 --> 00:02:20,366

review and revision. But after they're

56

00:02:20,366 --> 00:02:22,200

published other scholars will critique

57

00:02:22,200 --> 00:02:24,400

and question them as they make new

58

00:02:24,400 --> 00:02:27,866

contributions to the discussion. When

59

00:02:27,866 --> 00:02:29,766

you're reading academic articles for

60

00:02:29,766 --> 00:02:31,833

English 110 and other college classes

61

00:02:31,833 --> 00:02:33,900

it's important to spend some time

62

00:02:33,900 --> 00:02:36,200

considering how the author is taking

63

00:02:36,200 --> 00:02:39,400

part in a scholarly conversation. What is

64

00:02:39,400 --> 00:02:42,000

the author's field of study? How does the

65

00:02:42,000 --> 00:02:43,666

author engage with the work of other

66

00:02:43,666 --> 00:02:45,833

researchers? And while you certainly

67

00:02:45,833 --> 00:02:47,966

can't read all of the articles the

68

00:02:47,966 --> 00:02:49,800

author has cited, are there one or two

69

00:02:49,800 --> 00:02:52,000

that seem particularly important and

70

00:02:52,000 --> 00:02:54,266

might also be relevant to your research?

71

00:02:54,266 --> 00:02:57,133

These are great strategies to use while

72

00:02:57,133 --> 00:02:58,800

you're in the listening stage of the

73

00:02:58,800 --> 00:03:00,966

conversation, preparing to make your own

74

00:03:00,966 --> 00:03:03,233

contributions through your research

75

00:03:03,233 --> 00:03:06,300

projects. In the next video you'll learn

76

00:03:06,300 --> 00:03:08,633

more about using library databases to

77

00:03:08,633 --> 00:03:10,300

search for scholarly journal articles

78

00:03:10,300 --> 00:03:12,600

and other sources you can use for

79

00:03:12,600 --> 00:03:14,933

research.