

# Web of Science Core Collection journal selection process

**We are making our journal evaluation  
process faster and more transparent**

**We are guided by the legacy of  
Dr Eugene Garfield, inventor of the  
world's first citation index, and we adapt  
to respond to technological advances  
and changes in the publishing landscape.**

Our robust evaluation and curation  
makes the *Web of Science Core Collection*  
the world's most trusted publisher-  
independent global citation database.

**The curation process for *Web of Science Core Collection* is unique: our editorial decisions are conducted by our expert in-house editors who have no affiliations to publishing houses or research institutes thus removing any potential bias or conflict of interest.**

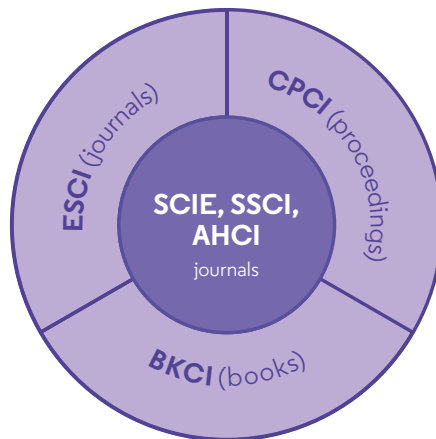
Each editor is focused on specific subject categories enabling them to gain a deep, nuanced knowledge of the journals in that field. This level of curation cannot be replicated by purely algorithmic approaches or delegating aspects of editorial decision-making to the research community.

The basic principles of our selection process remain the same: objectivity, selectivity and collection dynamics. We use a single set of 28 criteria to evaluate journals; these are divided into 24 quality criteria designed to select for editorial rigour and best practice at the journal level, and four impact criteria designed to select the most influential journals in their respective fields using citation activity as the primary indicator of impact.

Journals that meet the quality criteria enter *Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI)*. Journals that meet the additional impact criteria enter *Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE)*, *Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI)* or *Arts & Humanities Citation Index (AHCI)* depending on their subject area.

These are dynamic collections subject to continuous curation to ensure journals are in the appropriate collection. ESCI journals that gain impact move to SCIE, SSCI or AHCI. SCIE, SSCI and AHCI journals that decrease in impact move to ESCI. Any journal that decreases in quality will be removed from the *Web of Science Core Collection*.

### Web of Science Core Collection



Allows search and discovery of a trusted set of publications with comprehensive coverage in terms of subject, region and medium.

### SCIE, SSCI, AHCI

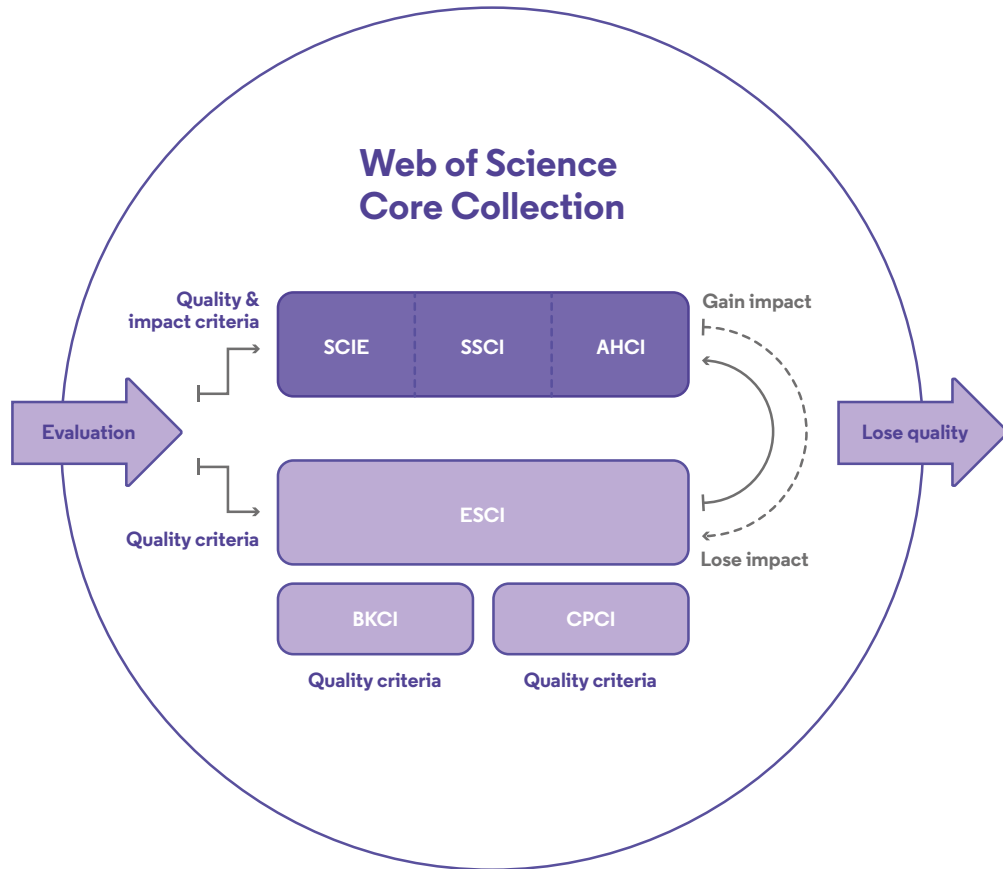


Contain the most impactful journals enabling searches to be restricted to the most influential publications.

# Web of Science Core Collection

Curated by an expert team of in-house editors

The *Web of Science Core Collection* is a trusted, high-quality, definitive resource for journals, books and conference proceedings.



## Journals

**Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE):** clinical, natural and applied sciences

**Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI):** social sciences

**Arts & Humanities Citation Index (AHCI):** arts and humanities

**Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI):** all disciplines

## Books

**Book Citation Index (BKCI):** all disciplines

## Conference proceedings

**Conference Proceedings Citation Index (CPCI):** all disciplines

# The journal evaluation process for the Web of Science Core Collection

