

The Chicago Manual of Style Online

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Chicago-Style Citation Quick Guide

The Chicago Manual of Style presents two basic documentation systems: (1) notes and bibliography and (2) author-date. Choosing between the two often depends on subject matter and the nature of sources cited, as each system is favored by different groups of scholars.

The notes and bibliography style is preferred by many in the humanities, including those in literature, history, and the arts. This style presents bibliographic information in notes and, often, a bibliography. It accommodates a variety of sources, including esoteric ones less appropriate to the author-date system.

The author-date system has long been used by those in the physical, natural, and social sciences. In this system, sources are briefly cited in the text, usually in parentheses, by author's last name and date of publication. The short citations are amplified in a list of references, where full bibliographic information is provided.

Aside from the use of notes versus parenthetical references in the text, the two systems share a similar style. Click on the tabs below to see some common examples of materials cited in each style, including examples of common electronic sources. For numerous specific examples, see [chapters 14](#) and [15](#) of the 16th edition of *The Chicago Manual of Style*.

NOTES AND BIBLIOGRAPHY AUTHOR-DATE

Author-Date: Sample Citations

The following examples illustrate citations using the author-date system. Each example of a reference list entry is accompanied by an example of a corresponding parenthetical citation in the text. For more details and many more examples, see [chapter 15](#) of *The Chicago Manual of Style*. For examples of the same citations using the notes and bibliography system, click on the Notes and Bibliography tab above.

Book

One author

Pollan, Michael. 2006. *The Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals*. New York: Penguin.

(Pollan 2006, 99–100)

Two or more authors

Ward, Geoffrey C., and Ken Burns. 2007. *The War: An Intimate History, 1941–1945*. New York: Knopf.

(Ward and Burns 2007, 52)

For four or more authors, list all of the authors in the reference list; in the text, list only the first author, followed by *et al.* (“and others”):

(Barnes et al. 2010)

Editor, translator, or compiler instead of author

Lattimore, Richmond, trans. 1951. *The Iliad of Homer*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

(Lattimore 1951, 91–92)

Editor, translator, or compiler in addition to author

García Márquez, Gabriel. 1988. *Love in the Time of Cholera*. Translated by Edith Grossman. London: Cape.

(García Márquez 1988, 242–55)

Chapter or other part of a book

Kelly, John D. 2010. “Seeing Red: Mao Fetishism, Pax Americana, and the Moral Economy of War.” In *Anthropology and Global Counterinsurgency*, edited by John D. Kelly, Beatrice Jauregui, Sean T. Mitchell, and Jeremy Walton, 67–83. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

(Kelly 2010, 77)

Chapter of an edited volume originally published elsewhere (as in primary sources)

Cicero, Quintus Tullius. 1986. "Handbook on Canvassing for the Consulship." In *Rome: Late Republic and Principate*, edited by Walter Emil Kaegi Jr. and Peter White. Vol. 2 of *University of Chicago Readings in Western Civilization*, edited by John Boyer and Julius Kirshner, 33–46. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Originally published in Evelyn S. Shuckburgh, trans., *The Letters of Cicero*, vol. 1 (London: George Bell & Sons, 1908).

(Cicero 1986, 35)

Preface, foreword, introduction, or similar part of a book

Rieger, James. 1982. Introduction to *Frankenstein; or, The Modern Prometheus*, by Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley, xi–xxxvii. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

(Rieger 1982, xx–xxi)

Book published electronically

If a book is available in more than one format, cite the version you consulted. For books consulted online, list a URL; include an access date only if one is required by your publisher or discipline. If no fixed page numbers are available, you can include a section title or a chapter or other number.

Austen, Jane. 2007. *Pride and Prejudice*. New York: Penguin Classics. Kindle edition.
Kurland, Philip B., and Ralph Lerner, eds. 1987. *The Founders' Constitution*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
<http://press-pubs.uchicago.edu/founders/>.

(Austen 2007)

(Kurland and Lerner, chap. 10, doc. 19)

Journal article

Article in a print journal

In the text, list the specific page numbers consulted, if any. In the reference list entry, list the page range for the whole article.

Weinstein, Joshua I. 2009. "The Market in Plato's *Republic*." *Classical Philology* 104: 439–58.

(Weinstein 2009, 440)

Article in an online journal

Include a DOI (Digital Object Identifier) if the journal lists one. A DOI is a permanent ID that, when appended to <http://dx.doi.org/> in the address bar of an Internet browser, will lead to the source. If no DOI is available, list a URL. Include an access date only if one is required by your publisher or discipline.

Kossinets, Gueorgi, and Duncan J. Watts. 2009. "Origins of Homophily in an Evolving Social Network." *American Journal of Sociology* 115: 405–50. Accessed February 28, 2010. doi: 10.1086/599247.

(Kossinets and Watts 2009, 411)

Article in a newspaper or popular magazine

Newspaper and magazine articles may be cited in running text ("As Sheryl Stolberg and Robert Pear noted in a *New York Times* article on February 27, 2010, . . ."), and they are commonly omitted from a reference list. The following examples show the more formal versions of the citations. If you consulted the article online, include a URL; include an access date only if your publisher or discipline requires one. If no author is identified, begin the citation with the article title.

Mendelsohn, Daniel. 2010. "But Enough about Me." *New Yorker*, January 25.
Stolberg, Sheryl Gay, and Robert Pear. 2010. "Wary Centrists Posing Challenge in Health Care Vote." *New York Times*, February 27. Accessed February 28, 2010.
<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/02/28/us/politics/28health.html>.

(Mendelsohn 2010, 68)

(Stolberg and Pear 2010)

Book review

Kamp, David. 2006. "Deconstructing Dinner." Review of *The Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals*, by Michael Pollan. *New York Times*, April 23, Sunday Book Review.
<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/04/23/books/review/23kamp.html>.

(Kamp 2006)

Thesis or dissertation

Choi, Mihwa. 2008. "Contesting *Imaginaires* in Death Rituals during the Northern Song Dynasty." PhD diss., University of Chicago.

(Choi 2008)

Paper presented at a meeting or conference

Adelman, Rachel. 2009. " 'Such Stuff as Dreams Are Made On': God's Footstool in the Aramaic Targumim and Midrashic Tradition." Paper presented at the annual meeting for the Society of Biblical Literature, New Orleans, Louisiana, November 21–24.

(Adelman 2009)

Website

A citation to website content can often be limited to a mention in the text ("As of July 19, 2008, the McDonald's Corporation listed on its website . . ."). If a more formal citation is desired, it may be styled as in the examples below. Because such content is subject to change, include an access date or, if available, a date that the site was last modified. In the absence of a date of publication, use the access date or last-modified date as the basis of the citation.

Google. 2009. "Google Privacy Policy." Last modified March 11.
<http://www.google.com/intl/en/privacypolicy.html>.

McDonald's Corporation. 2008. "McDonald's Happy Meal Toy Safety Facts." Accessed July 19.
<http://www.mcdonalds.com/corp/about/factsheets.html>.

(Google 2009)

(McDonald's 2008)

Blog entry or comment

Blog entries or comments may be cited in running text ("In a comment posted to *The Becker-Posner Blog* on February 23, 2010, . . ."), and they are commonly omitted from a reference list. If a reference list entry is needed, cite the blog post there but mention comments in the text only. (If an access date is required, add it before the URL; see examples elsewhere in this guide.)

Posner, Richard. 2010. "Double Exports in Five Years?" *The Becker-Posner Blog*, February 21.
<http://uchicagolaw.typepad.com/beckerposner/2010/02/double-exports-in-five-years-posner.html>.

(Posner 2010)

E-mail or text message

E-mail and text messages may be cited in running text ("In a text message to the author on March 1, 2010, John Doe revealed . . ."), and they are rarely listed in a reference list. In parenthetical citations, the term *personal communication* (or *pers. comm.*) can be used.

(John Doe, e-mail message to author, February 28, 2010)

or

(John Doe, pers. comm.)

Item in a commercial database

For items retrieved from a commercial database, add the name of the database and an accession number following the facts of publication. In this example, the dissertation cited above is shown as it would be cited if it were retrieved from ProQuest's database for dissertations and theses.

Choi, Mihwa. 2008. "Contesting *Imaginaires* in Death Rituals during the Northern Song Dynasty." PhD diss., University of Chicago. ProQuest (AAT 3300426).

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