Chicago-Style Citation Quick Guide


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

The humanities style is preferred by many 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 more concise 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 the author’s last name and date of publication. The short citations are amplified in a list of references, where full bibliographic information is provided.
Examples (in-text citation, followed by listing in References)

**Book with one author**

**In-text citation**

(Doniger 1999)

**Reference**


**Book with two authors**

**In-text citation**

(Cowlishaw and Dunbar 2000)

**Reference**


**Book with more than three authors**

**In-text citation**

(Laumann et al. 1994)

**Reference**

**Editor, translator, or compiler**

**In-text citation**

(Lattimore 1951)

**Reference**


**Chapter or other part of a book**

**In-text citation**

(Twaddell 1957, 85-87)

**Reference**


**Secondary source ("quoted in...")**

**In-text citation**

(Zukofsky 1931)

**Reference**

Organization as author

In-text citation

(British Standards Institute 1985)

Reference


Journal article

In-text citation

(Smith 1998, 639-40)

Reference


Magazine article

In-text citation

(Gourmet 2000)

Reference

Public documents

In-text citation

(Illinois Constitution)

Reference


Online journals

In-text citation

(Warr and Ellison 2000, under "The Consequences of Fear")

Reference


In-text citation

(Hlatky et al. 2002)

Reference

Hlatky, Mark A., Derek Boothroyd, Eric Vittinghoff, Penny Sharp, and Mary A. Whooley. 2002. "Quality-of-Life and Depressive Symptoms in Postmenopausal Women after Receiving Hormone Therapy: Results from the Heart and Estrogen/Progestin Replacement Study

**Organization website**

In-text citation

(Federation of American Scientists)

Reference

Federation of American Scientists. Resolution comparison: Reading license plates and headlines.


**News and journal databases**

In-text citation

(Thomas 1956)

Reference