

CSE Name-Year Citation Style Guide

The CSE Citation Style: An Introduction

It is important to cite the original source when using an idea, quotation, data, image, etc. that is not your own. Failing to cite your sources constitutes plagiarism. The Council of Science Editors (CSE) style is a standard citation style used across many disciplines in the physical and life sciences. The CSE style encompasses three distinct systems:

- **Name-Year:** In-text citations appear in brackets, and consist of the author(s) last name, as well as the document's year of publication (e.g. Smith 2008). The end reference list appears in alphabetical order by author last name.
- **Citation-Sequence:** A superscript number (e.g. ¹) is assigned to a document the first time it appears in the text, and the same number is used whenever that work is cited. The references in the reference list are listed numerically in the order in which they first appeared in the text.
- **Citation-Name:** All references in the reference list are organized alphabetically by author last name, and assigned a number according to their order in the list. This number is then inserted in the text in superscript font (e.g. ¹) wherever the work is cited.

This guide describes the **Name-Year** system only, and is based on Chapter 29 of the 7th edition of *Scientific Style and Format: The CSE Manual for Authors, Editors, and Publishers*, which is located in the Reference section of both the Macdonald Campus Library (call number: T11 S386 2006) and the Life Sciences Library (call number: WZ 345 S416 2006). For instructions on using the other two systems, or a more detailed description of the Name-Year system, please consult the *Manual*.

PART 1: IN-TEXT CITATIONS

The author's name and the year of publication are listed in parentheses at the end of the sentence:

This claim was later refuted (Jones 2008).

If the author's name is clearly mentioned in the text, it can be directly followed by the year of publication, in parentheses:

Jones (2008) later refuted this claim.

If both the author name and year are clearly mentioned in the text, there is no need to include a parenthetical reference:

In 2008, Jones refuted this claim.

If you are citing a specific part of a document (e.g. a direct quotation, or a figure, chart or table), include the page number on which that information is found:

"These results clearly contradict those published in 2004 by the Smith lab." (Jones 2008, p. 56).

More than one author

If a document has two authors, include both surnames separated by "and". For works with three or more authors, include only the first author name, followed by "et al.":

... (Andrews and Gray 1995).

... (Gomez et al. 2003).

Prepared by Jan Sandink, Liaison Librarian
Macdonald Campus Library, Aug. 2010; updated Jan. 2013

Multiple works by different authors

If you are citing several sources at once, list them in chronological order, or alphabetically if two or more works were published in the same year, and separate each one with a semicolon:

... (Samson 1963; Carter and Bowles 1975; Grimes 1975; Anderson et al. 1992).

Multiple works by the same author published in the same year

If you are citing two or more works written by the same author in the same year, add a designator (a, b, c...) to distinguish them. Use the same designators in the reference list:

... (Dubois 1976a; Dubois 1976b).

Dubois J. 1976a. Detection of trends in...

Dubois J. 1976b. Distribution patterns of...

Citing a secondary or indirect source

If you would like to cite a source that is cited in another document, it is always best to consult and then cite the original source. However, if you are unable to locate and verify the original source document, you must cite the secondary source while at the same time acknowledging the author of the original idea in both the in-text citation and end reference:

... (Rawls 1971, cited in Brown 2008)

Rawls J. 1971. *A Theory of Justice*. Cambridge (MA): Belknap Press. Cited in: Brown PG. 2008. *The Commonwealth of Life: Economics for a Flourishing Earth*. 2nd ed. Montreal (QC): Black Rose Books.

Organizations as authors

If the author of a document is an organization, corporation, government department, university, etc., use an abbreviated form of the organization in the in-text citation, by retaining the first letter of each word in the name, or some other recognized abbreviation:

... (FAO 2006).

PART 2: REFERENCE LIST

The reference list comes at the end of your paper and includes full bibliographic information for all of the sources cited in the text. The references are listed in alphabetical order by first author last name.

Components of references in the reference list

The following components, if available, are included when citing a source, in the following sequence:

Books and other monographs

Author(s) or Editor(s)
Year of publication
Title
Content or medium designator
Edition
Secondary author(s)
Place of Publication
Publisher
Pagination
Series

Journal and newspaper articles

Author(s)
Year of publication
Article title
Content or medium designator
Journal or newspaper title
Volume
Issue
Pagination

Author(s) or Editor(s)

List the last names and initials of the authors in the order in which they appear in the original document, and separate each one with a comma.

Mary-Beth Macdonald and Laurence G. Kaufman become Macdonald MB, Kaufman LG.

If the document has editors rather than authors, follow the names with a comma and “editor(s)”:

Macdonald MB, Kaufman LG, editors.

More than ten authors

Always include the names of the first ten authors. If there are more than ten, include the first ten author names only, followed by a comma and “et al.”

Secondary author(s)

Secondary authors include translators, illustrators, editors or producers, and may be included in the reference, in addition to the principal author(s), after the book title:

Marquez GG. 1988. *Love in the time of cholera*. Grossman E, translator. New York...

Organizations as authors (29.3.6.1.2)

The full name of the organization must be identified in the reference list, but preceded by the abbreviation used in the text, in square brackets. Order the reference alphabetically by the full name, not the acronym:

[FAO] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. 2006. *Gender and law: Women’s rights in agriculture...*

Title

Include both the title and subtitle, retaining the punctuation used in the original document. For books and journal article titles, capitalize only the first word, as well as proper nouns, acronyms and initials. All significant words in journal titles may be capitalized:

Book: Plant cell culture: essential methods
Journal: Canadian Journal of Animal Science

Content designator

Content designators describe the format of a document, and may be used to provide additional information with regards to the nature of a document (e.g. dissertations, theses, bibliographies, and certain types of journal articles such as editorials, letters to the editor, news, etc.). Content designators appear in square brackets directly after the title:

Bernier MH. 2009. *Assessing on-farm water use efficiency in southern Ontario* [thesis]. Montreal...

Medium designator

Medium designators indicate that the document is in a non-print format, such as “microfiche”, “CD-ROM”, or “Internet”. Medium designators are required and appear in square brackets directly after the title:

Gooderham CB. 1917. Bee diseases [microfiche].
Ottawa...

Place of Publication and Publisher

The place of publication refers to the city where the publisher is located. This information is usually found on the title page of the book in question, or in the McGill catalogue record. If no place of publication can be found use the words [place unknown] in square brackets. If more than one city is listed, use only the first one that appears. Certain cities may stand alone (e.g. New York), but in order to avoid confusion, the country name may be written out or 2 letter ISO country code included (e.g. United Kingdom: GB). For Canadian or U.S. cities, the two letter province or state code may be included.

Pagination

If using only part of a published work (ie. a journal article, or a book chapter), indicate the pagination of the section you are referring to. Pagination is optional if you are referring to the entire work.

Series

If the document is part of a series, you must add the series title and volume number at the end of the entry.

PART 3: EXAMPLES (PRINT)

Journal article

Author(s). Year. Article title. Journal name.
Volume(Issue): Pages.

Holmberg S, Osterholm M, Sanger K, Cohen M.
1987. Drug-resistant salmonella from animals fed antimicrobials. *New England Journal of Medicine*.
311(2): 617-622.

Book

Author(s). Year. Book Title. Edition. Place of Publication: Publisher.

Carson R. 1962. *Silent spring*. Boston (MA):
Houghton Mifflin.

Chapter in a book

Author(s). Year. Chapter title. In: Book title. Edition.
Place of Publication: Publisher. p. Pages of the chapter.

Carson R. 1962. Earth’s green mantle. In: *Silent spring*. Boston (MA): Houghton Mifflin. p. 63-83.

Edited book

Editor name(s), editors. Year. Book title. Edition. Place of Publication: Publisher.

Springate-Baginski O, Blaikie P, editors. 2007.
Forests, people and power: the political ecology of reform in South Asia. London (GB): Earthscan.

Chapter or article in an edited book

Author(s) of the part. Year. Chapter title. In: Editor name(s), editors. Book title. Edition. Place of Publication: Publisher. p. Pages of the chapter.

Banerjee A. 2007. Joint forest management in West Bengal. In: Springate-Baginski O, Blaikie P, editors. *Forests, people and power: the political ecology of reform in South Asia*. London (GB): Earthscan. p. 221-260.

Article in a dictionary or encyclopedia

Cite as you would an article in an edited book; if the author of the part is not specified, the editor assumes the place of the author.

Book in a series

Author(s). Year. Book Title. Edition. Place of Publication: Publisher. (Series title; vol. #)

Tegos G, Mylonakis E, editors. 2012. *Antimicrobial drug discovery: emerging strategies*. Wallingford, Oxfordshire (GB): CABI. (Advances in molecular and cellular microbiology; vol.22).

Thesis or dissertation

Author(s). Year. Title [content designator]. [Place of Publication]: Publisher (*often a university*).

Bernier MH. 2009. *Assessing on-farm water use efficiency in southern Ontario* [thesis]. [Montreal (QC)]: McGill University.

Conference papers or proceedings

Author(s). Year. Title of paper. In: Editor name(s), editors. Title of Volume. Number and name of conference; date of conference; location of conference. Place of publication: Publisher. p. Pages.

Clarke A, Crame JA. 2003. Importance of historical processes in global patterns of diversity. In: Blackburn TM, Gaston KJ, editors. *Macroecology: concepts and consequences*. Proceedings of the 43rd annual symposium of the British Ecological Society; 2002 Apr 17-19; Birmingham. Malden (MA): Blackwell. p. 130-152.

PART 4: EXAMPLES (ELECTRONIC)

The proliferation of electronic information has introduced new challenges, as documents can exist in several different formats. Electronic sources are cited in the same way as their print counterparts, with some internet-specific items added: a medium designator (see description above), the date the document was last modified or updated (if available), the date cited, and the document URL or DOI (digital object identifier).

Opinions differ on how best to cite electronic journal articles. Generally, an electronic article based on a print source, in PDF format, is considered unalterable and is cited like a print article would be. Electronic articles in html or text format could easily be altered or exist in several versions, and should be cited respecting the rules for websites and other electronic documents.

When viewing journal articles online, the links that appear in your browser's address box may be temporary and will no longer work after a few days. Many databases and publishers will provide a permanent or persistent link, or, look for the article's DOI (digital object identifier), which is often listed along with the rest of the citation information.

Electronic article in PDF format

Articles in pdf format, based on a print source, can be cited like a print journal article (example in Part 3).

Electronic article in HTML or text format

Author(s). Year. Article title. Journal name [medium designator]. [date updated; date cited]; Volume(Issue): Pages (if available). Available from: URL or DOI

Woolf D, Amonette JE, Street-Perrott FA, Lehmann J, Joseph S. 2010. Sustainable biochar to mitigate global climate change. *Nature Communications* [Internet]. [cited 2010 Aug 18]; 1(Art. 56). Available from: <http://www.nature.com/ncomms/journal/v1/n5/full/ncomms1053.html>

Electronic book

Author(s) or Editor(s). Year. Book Title [medium designator]. Edition. Place of Publication: Publisher; [date updated; date cited]. Available from: URL

Watson RR, Preedy VR, editors. 2010. *Bioactive foods in promoting health: fruits and vegetables* [Internet]. Amsterdam: Academic Press; [cited 2010 Apr 22]. Available from: www.sciencedirect.com/science/book/9780123746283

Article in an electronic dictionary or encyclopedia

Cite as you would an article in an electronic book

Allaby M, editor. 2006. photosynthesis. In: *Dictionary of Plant Sciences* [Internet]. Rev. ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press; [cited 2010 Aug 31]. Available from: www.oxfordreference.com/views/ENTRY.html?subview=Main&entry=t7.e5147

Website

Title of website [medium designator]. Date of publication. Place of publication: Publisher; [date updated; date cited]. Available from: URL

Electronic Factbook [Internet]. 2007. Montreal (QC): McGill University; [updated 2007 Mar 30; cited 2013 Jan 11]. Available from: <http://www.is.mcgill.ca/upo/factbook/index-upo.htm>

Online document

Author(s). Date of publication. Title [medium designator]. Edition. Place of publication: Publisher; [date updated; date cited]. Available from: URL

Kruse JS. 2007. Framework for sustainable soil management: literature review and synthesis [Internet]. Ankeny (IA): Soil and Water Conservation Society; [cited 2008 Aug 3]. Available from: <http://www.swcs.org/documents/filelibrary/BeyondTLiteraturereview.pdf>