

# Using Scientific (CSE) style

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## SCIENTIFIC CITATION

It is important to provide proper citation to all sources used when writing academic papers. When citing, you are acknowledging another person's idea whether you have quoted them directly or not. References provide readers with enough information to easily identify and locate the sources that you consulted.

A **citation** provides brief details of the author and date of publication within your paper. It leads the reader to your Bibliography or Reference List.

A **reference** is the specially formatted bibliographic description of a journal article, book or other cited material.

The **Bibliography** or **Reference List** is a list at the end of your paper of all the references used within your paper.

### Using the CSE Council of Science Editors scientific citation style

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Students studying in the natural and applied sciences format their references according to the **name-year** style or the **citation-name** system of the Council of Science Editors, unless otherwise directed by their instructor. The Council of Science Editors (formerly the Council of Biology Editors) has published the style guide **Scientific Style and Format: The CSE Manual for Authors, Editors, and Publishers**, 8th edition (2014).

This guide highlights only the most commonly used information from the **CSE Manual** in the **name-year** style. If you are in doubt about how to cite a particular item, or if you wish to cite an item not addressed in this hand-out, **please consult the Scientific Style and Format manual directly**. The manual is available on the Main floor of the Library in the Reference collection. Call number is **REF T11.S386 2014**. **Still in doubt? Consult with your instructor.**

## CITING IN-TEXT SOURCES

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The following are examples of how to cite paraphrased sources **within the body** of your paper using the **name-year** style.

Zircon separates were analyzed by chemical abrasion isotope dilution thermal ionization mass spectrometry (Mattinson 2005).

Le Fevre et al. (1976) proposed four provisional conodont assemblage zone and one formal conodont zone for the Silurian succession of the Hudson Bay Basin.

The base of the overlying *Pterospirifer celloni-eopennatus* Assemblage Zone of Zhang and Barnes (2007) was defined by the first appearance of any of the key species within the assemblage: *Pterospirifer eopennatus*, *Pterospirifer celloni*, *Pterospirifer amorphognatheodes angulatus*, and *Aulacognathus bullatus*.

When citing **three or more authors**, list the first author followed by 'et al.' and then the year.

When **no authors** are given, use the first word or first few words, followed by an ellipsis. Example: (Gene...1990)

When **no date** is given, place the words 'date unknown' in square brackets. Example: (Graham [date unknown])

If the author(s) name(s) appear **within the text**, the year should follow in parenthesis.

When you **cite two or more sources at once**, your citation should be arranged chronologically, from the earliest publication to the latest. Each citation is separated by a semicolon. Example: (Radhost 1969; Barker and others 1972; WHO 2001)

If your sources are published in the **same year**, arrange these citations **alphabetically**.

**Direct Quotations** are rarely used in the sciences and are reserved for highly memorable words, or when confirmation of a

certain conclusion in is doubt. In these cases, the quotation should be very brief.

It is recommended that you include the page number(s) even though CSE does not identify the page. Example: "These terminologies have been used, at least in part, by many researchers" (Spicer 1986 p. 2589).

## PREPARING YOUR BIBLIOGRAPHY OR REFERENCE LIST

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### General Guidelines

Title your page "Bibliography" if you want to include other references that might be of interest but that you did not cite. Otherwise the title should be "References" or "Reference List" and center this title at the top of the page.

Double-space between citations and single-space within citations.

For papers using the **name-year** system, list references in alphabetical order.

Begin each citation flush left and indent 5 spaces for subsequent lines.

Authors are listed by last name, followed by initials.

Capitalize only first words and proper nouns in cited titles. Titles are not underlined, and articles are not placed in quotations.

Do not abbreviate single name journal titles. Other names of journals should be abbreviated when possible using the *National Information Standards Organization* (NISO) list of serials.

Cite publication year, and volume or page number if applicable.

### REFERENCING JOURNAL ARTICLES

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#### Format:

Author(s) of article. Date. Title of article. Title of journal, volume: pages.

#### Single Author:

Ambrose, J.W. 1964. Exhumed paleoplains of the Precambrian shield of North America. *Amer J Sci*, 262: 817-857.  
doi:10.2475/ajs.262.7.817.

#### Multiple Authors:

Anderson, R.K., Miller, G.H., Briner, J.P., Lifton, N.a., and DeVogel, S.B. 2008. A millennial perspective on Arctic warming from 14C in quartz and plants emerging from beneath ice caps. *Geophysical Research Letters*, 35: L01502.  
doi:10.29/2007GL032057.

### REFERENCING BOOKS (or PARTS thereof)

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#### Format:

Author(s) [or editor(s)]. Year of publication. Book title. Edition (if available). Place of Publication. Publisher. (Pagination and/or notes are optional.)

#### Single author:

Mitchell A. 2010. *Seasick: the global ocean in crisis*. Toronto, (ONT): McClelland & Stewart.

#### Multiple authors:

Mazumder R, Eriksson PG. 2015. *Precambrian basins of India*. London: Geological Society.

#### Organization as author:

Geoanalysis, National Capital Commission. 1983. *Location of the Hazeldean Fault, Stony Swamp Conservation Area*. Ottawa: Property Branch, Greenbelt Division, National Capital Commission.

#### Author, editor, translator and note:

Luzikov VN. 1985. *Mitochondrial biogenesis and breakdown*. Galkin AV, Translator; Roodyn DB, editor. New York: Consultants Bureau. Translation of *Reguliatsiia formirovaniia mitokhondrii*.

#### Chapter in book by different author and book editor:

Lum A. 1989. *Palaeontology*. In: Wood DN, Hard JE, Harvey AP, editors. *Information sources in the earth sciences*. London (UK): Bowker-Saur, p. 236-273.

**Volume of series with a separate title:**

Cajori F. 1929. A history of mathematical notation. Chicago: Open Court, Volume 2, Notation mainly in higher mathematics.

**Papers in a book with different authors, with note:**

Behrent JC, Green AG, Cannon WF, Hutchison DR, Lee MW, Milkereity B, Agena WF, Spencer C. 1989. Crustal extension in the Mid-continent rift system – results from GLIMPCE deep seismic reflection profiles over Lakes Superior and Michigan. In: Mereu S, Mueller S, Fountain DM, editors. Properties and processes of Earth's lower crust. Washington: American Geophysical Union. Geophysical Monograph. 51:81-89.

**Encyclopedia article:**

Lerner KL, Lerner, BW. 2004. Pollution. In: The Gale Encyclopedia of Science, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed., New York: Gale Cengage Learning, 5: 3174.

**Government report:**

Utting, DJ, Little, EC, Coulthard, RD, Brown, OH, Hartmann, GMD, Huscroft, CA and Smith JS. 2006. Glacial history and drift prospecting. Conn Lake and Buchan Gulf, northern Baffin Island, Nunavut. Geological Survey of Canada, Current Research no. 2006-C3. 11 p. doi:10.4095/222644.

**Technical report:**

The general format for a reference to a technical report that is written and published by the performing organization, including punctuation:

Moray NP, Huey, BM. 1988. Human factors research and nuclear safety. Washington (DC): National Academy Press. Contract NO.: 04-86-301. Available from: NTIS, Springfield, VA; PB89-175517. Sponsored by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Note:** For more examples of proper citation for dissertations and theses, bibliographies, patents, conference proceedings, newspaper articles, audiovisuals, websites and other online formats, please refer to the **CSE Manual**, 8<sup>th</sup> edition, Chapter 29, References, p. 547-676.

**ONLINE MATERIALS**

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Although electronic documents differ radically in physical form from the usual book or journal, the basic rules of citing them are the same.

The general format for a reference to an electronic document, including pagination, is as follows:

**Books in electronic format:**

Author(s). Title of book [medium designator]. Edition. Place of publication: publisher; date. Notes.

**Journal articles in electronic format:**

Author(s) of article. Title of article. Title of journal (edition) [medium designator]. Date; volume(issue): location. Notes.

**Databases in electronic format:**

Author(s). Title of database [medium designator]. Edition Place of publication: publisher. Beginning date-ending date. Physical description. Notes.

Please refer to the **CSE Manual**, 8<sup>th</sup> edition, Chapter 29, References, p. 547-676 for examples.

**NEED MORE HELP?**

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**Research Help Desk**

Location: Main floor, Library  
Telephone: 613-520-2735  
Web site: [www.library.carleton.ca](http://www.library.carleton.ca)

**Writing Tutorial Service**

Location: 4th floor, Library  
Telephone: 613-520-2600 x1125  
Web site: <http://www.carleton.ca/sasc/writing-tutorial-service/>

**References used to compile this guide include:**

Council of Science Editors, **Scientific Style and Format: The CSE Manual for Authors, Editors, and Publishers**, 8th edition (2014)

Faigley L, Graves R, Graves H. 2008. The Brief Penguin Handbook, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., Toronto, (ONT): Pearson Custom Publishing.

LibGuide for Citing Sources - Natural Sciences:  
<http://libguides.ucalgary.ca/c.php?g=255177&p=1702703>