Chicago Manual of Style Author-Date: Sample Citations

The following examples illustrate citations using the author-date system. Students may not under any circumstances use the documentary note system. Failure to follow this rule will seriously affect a student’s grade. These examples come from the manual itself. You must consistently use this style to get a good grade. 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*.

**Book**

**One author**


(Pollan 2006, 99–100)

**Two or more authors**


(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 1951, 91–92)

**Editor, translator, or compiler in addition to author**


(García Márquez 1988, 242–55)

**Chapter or other part of a book**

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


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


 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.


 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.


 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 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 2010, 68)

(Stolberg and Pear 2010)

**Book review**


(Kamp 2006)

**Thesis or dissertation**


(Choi 2008)

**Paper presented at a meeting or conference**

(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)

(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 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.