Scientific Citation Style: McMillan and CSE


When you use the words or original ideas of another person in your writing they must be documented. There are several different formats used for documentation in the biological and environmental sciences, including APA style; consult your instructor to determine which is appropriate for your field.

**HOW TO CITE SOURCES IN THE TEXT**

In the sciences, sources of information (references) may be identified in the text of the paper rather than in footnotes. The in-text reference information you provide leads the reader to the "Literature Cited" section at the end of your paper, where complete information is provided. Following are just a few examples from *Writing Papers in the Biological Sciences*, using the Harvard System (*Name-Year*). Consult McMillan, Chapter 6, for additional examples.

**DIRECT QUOTES.** Use direct quotes sparingly, but when you do, include the page number:
Rith-Najarian (1998, p.3) has written, "...

**WORK BY ONE AUTHOR**
A recent study...(Scipione 2008) suggests that....

The presence of hairs on a leaf can increase...(McCoy 1996).

**WHEN THE AUTHOR’S NAME IS PART OF THE SENTENCE**
In Chandler’s (2009) study of....

**WORK BY TWO AUTHORS**
Other researchers (Silsby and Dunkle 1981) have suggested....
WORK BY THREE OR MORE AUTHORS
Henry et al. (2000) have suggested that…


MULTIPLE WORKS BY THE SAME AUTHOR
The role of plasmids…has been described…by Wylie (1988, 2002, 2009).

TWO OR MORE WORKS BY DIFFERENT AUTHORS
Many different models have been proposed… (Watkins 1997, 1999; Moss 2000; Cappy 2010).

ARTICLE OR CHAPTER IN AN EDITED VOLUME
Cite the author of the material you are referring to, not the editor(s) of the entire book

WORKS YOU HAVE NOT CONSULTED DIRECTLY (try to avoid doing this!)
Arcari (1954, cited in Castrodale 1985) reported that...
Note: List both sources in the Literature Cited section

WHEN NO AUTHOR IS GIVEN, use the first few words of the title in place of the author’s name; add an ellipse before the date
This species has been reported…(Common dragonflies…1999).

UNPUBLISHED MATERIAL (including e-mail and personal communications)
D. Craine (personal communication; unreferenced) has suggested....
This species has also been found...(L Urban, 2000, unpublished data; unreferenced).
Note: Do Not list unreferenced material in the Literature Cited section

______________________________________________________________________

THE LITERATURE CITED SECTION
(also called References or References Cited)

The Literature Cited section at the end of your paper includes all, and only, those sources cited in your paper.

- Journal articles, books, documents, and unpublished works all appear in the same list, alphabetically by author’s last name (if there is no author, use the first few words of the title)
- Single space each entry, and double space between entries
- 2 to 10 authors: list all; more than 10, list the first 10 followed by et al.
- Punctuation and abbreviations are important! For details, please consult McMillan or CSE.
EXAMPLES OF PRINT SOURCES

JOURNAL ARTICLE BY A SINGLE AUTHOR

ARTICLE OR CHAPTER IN AN EDITED VOLUME

JOURNAL ARTICLE WITH TWO OR MORE AUTHORS

ORGANIZATION AS AUTHOR

ANONYMOUS WORK
NEWSPAPER ARTICLE

BOOK

BOOK WITH AN EDITOR

BOOK WITH TWO TO TEN AUTHORS
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PROFESSIONAL OR PERSONAL SITE:

- give the author(s) and the title - the most prominent words on the page -, followed by
- "Internet" in brackets. Next
- provide the place of publication or origin, followed by
- the publisher

NOTE: web pages often have several dates, as shown below: publication date (when the material was placed on the internet), the copyright date (c), the latest revision date, and the date the site was viewed by the writer.

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