CSE
Citation Style for Academic Writing

Center for Writing Excellence
CSE Style

CSE, or Council of Science Editors, citation style is used for physical and natural sciences.

The most current edition is the 8th edition.
General Guidelines

CSE provides guidelines for --

- In-Text Citations
- References
- Style
Three Systems for References

Use whichever system that is most commonly used in your discipline:

• **Name-Year (N-Y)**
  - Includes in-text citations and end references listed in alphabetical order.

• **Citation-Sequence (C-S)**
  - Uses superscript numbers within the text to refer to the end references. End references are listed in the order they are referred to in the text.

• **Citation-Name (C-N)**
  - Uses superscript numbers within the text to refer to the end references. End references are listed alphabetically by author and then by title.
Name-Year (N-Y): In-Text References

- Citation should appear immediately after referencing content
- Punctuation comes after citation
- Include last name of author and year of publication
- If author is in running text, only include the year in parenthesis.
In-Text:
The NIH has called for a change in smallpox vaccination policy (Fauci 2002) that . . .

Reference:

All examples are from the CSE manual unless otherwise noted.
N-Y: Single Author

Same Author in Different Years

Distinguish works by placing years after the name in chronological order.

In-Text:
Smith’s studies of arbovirus infections (Smith 1970, 1975) have shown that . . .

References:

Cold hardiness in cereals (Andrews 1960a, 1960b) is affected by….

References:
In-Text:

... and the most recent work on albuterol administration (Mazan and Hoffman 2001) is...

Reference:

In-Text: *Use et al.*

... but later studies (Ito et al. 1999) established that ...
Drug dosage recommendations for elderly patients (Handbook. . . . 2002) depart from . . .

Reference:
An early Belgian study (Lederer [date unknown]) on nutrition showed . . .

References:
Important Elements: Articles

Author
Use last name and initials for first & middle names. List all names for up to 10 authors. More than 10, list the first 10 authors and then “et al.”

Title of article
Capitalize the first word of the title and proper nouns

Title of publication abbreviated
Use abbreviations used by PubMed, if applicable

Date of publication of article
Use year for scholarly journals; year and month for magazines; year, month and day for daily or newspapers publications

Volume and issue number

Page range

(PennState 2019)
N-Y: End References

Important Elements: Books

Author
Use last name and initials only for first & middle names

Title
Capitalize the first word of title and proper nouns

Place of publication
Use city and state abbreviation

Publisher

Extent
Total number of pages of the publication. Can be expressed in pages or by volume if the book is published in more than one volume
Examples: 346 p. or 3 vol.

Notes
Use if you need to provide clarification to reference. Not essential for the reference, but might be helpful for the reader. Can include availability information, language of publication if other than English, DOI or ISSN, etc.

(PennState 2019)
N-Y: End References

Basic Format

Print Articles

Print Books

Online Material
• Follow the basic format for relevant reference
• Include accessed date after the journal name for articles OR after the date of publication for books
• Add URL at the end
Article in Scholarly Journal

Online Scholarly Article
N-Y: End References

Dissertation

Author(s). Date. Title of dissertation or thesis [Dissertation/thesis]. [City of Publication (State Abbreviation)]: Publisher. Extent. Notes.

Examples:

N-Y: End References

Conferences Proceedings

Editor(s). Date. Title of book. Number and name of conference; date of conference; place of conference. Place of publication: publisher. Extent. Notes.

Example:
Author(s) of paper. Date. Title of paper. In: Editor(s). Title of book. Number and name of conference; date of conference; place of conference. Place of publication: Publisher. Location. Notes.

Example:
N-Y: End References

Technical Report


Example:
N-Y: End References

**Newspaper Article**

Author(s). Date. Title of article. Title of newspaper (edition). Sect. Beginning page of article (column no.).

**Example:**

N-Y: End References

Books

Single Author:

Two to Ten Authors: list all names

More than Ten: list first 10 authors followed by “et al.”
Editor, No Author

Author and Editor
N-Y: End References

Books Cont’d

Parts of books *(written by one of the authors of the book)*


Contributions *(written by someone outside of the authors of the book)*

N-Y: End References

**Websites**

Title of Homepage. Date of Publication. Edition. Place of Publication: Publisher; [date updated; date accessed]. Notes.

**Example:**

Citation-Sequence (C-S) and Citation-N (C-N) Similarities

• Use superscript numbers within the text to refer to the end references.
• Superscript should come immediately after referencing content.
  – Example: Modern scientific nomenclature really began with Linnaeus in botany\(^1\), but other disciplines\(^2,3\) were not many years behind in developing various systems\(^4-7\) for nomenclature and symbolization.
• Follow the same general sequence of information in the end reference:
  – author name, title, and additional items depending on the type of source (including year of publication).
C-S & C-N

Differences

The only difference is how they are listed in the end references:

C-S: End references are listed in the order they are referred to in the text.

C-N: End references are listed alphabetically by author and then by title.

(PennState 2019)
C-S: In-Text References

• Number the references and order them within the list in the sequence in which they first appear.
  – If Smith is the first one mention in the text, the complete reference to Smith’s work will be 1 in the end references.
• Use the same number for subsequent in-text citations.
In-text reference:
Traumatic life events and posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) are endemic among American civilians.¹ Each year . . .

End reference:
C-N: In-Text References

- Complete the list of end references by organizing them alphabetically by author.
- Number the reference in that sequence, such that a work authored by Adam is number 1, by Brown is number 2, and so on
- These numbers are assigned to the end references are used for the in-text references regardless of the sequence in which they appear in the text.
  - If a work by Zielinski is the first in-text reference appearing in a document and the end reference for Zielinski is number 56, the in-text reference will be number 56 also.
C-S & C-N In-Text References

• If several in-text references occur at the same point, place their numbers in numeric order.
• For more than 2 numbers in a continuous sequence, connect the first and last numbers with an en dash.
  – … have been shown 1,2,5,7,11-15 to abrogate the requirements of T Cells. . .
C-S & C-N: End References

C-S and C-N end references follow the same basic format as N-Y. The main difference is the placement of the year and volume, issue and page range format for journals.

Like N-Y format, the end references authors should be as followed:

• List the names of the authors in the order in which they appear in the original text.
• Use the author’s last name followed by initials without punctuation
• 2-10 authors, list them all
• If more than 10, list the first 10 followed by et al.
C-S & C-N: End References

Important Elements: Articles

Author
Title of article  (Sentence case, except for proper nouns)
Title of publication abbreviated
Date of publication of article
Volume and issue number
Page numbers of article

Basic Format:
C-S & C-N: End References

Important Elements: Books

Author
Title (Sentence case, except for proper nouns)
Place of publication
Publisher
Publication date
Number of pages

Basic Format:
C-S & C-N: End References

Articles

Article in a scholarly journal

Online scholarly article
C-S & C-N: End References

Books

Book

Book with editors
Style

Use bias-free language
Avoid terms that reflect stereotypic biases
Use person-first language:

**Use:** a person with diabetes

**Avoid:** a diabetic

Avoid unnecessary words and phrases

Use active voice

Passive voice is best used when the emphasis is on a process taking place (such as in the materials or methods section of a report)
Resources

CWE Digital Dashboard

PennState University Library

Scientific Style and Format Manual (CSE)
Q&A and Discussion

• *There is no great writing, only great rewriting.*
  --Justice Brandeis

• *Writing is 1 percent inspiration, and 99 percent elimination.*
  --Louise Brooks