

# The Harvard system of referencing

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# The Harvard system of referencing

This is a guide to the Harvard system but you should always check your course handbook and/or module outline for any further guidance, as your lecturers may prefer a different style of referencing. It is always advisable to check which system you are expected to use and to what extent it may vary from this guide.

## 1. Introduction

When writing a piece of work you should provide references to the sources used. A **reference** is the detailed bibliographic description of the item from which you gained your information. In simple terms, this means the details of the items that you have used, e.g. author, title, date of publication. References are briefly cited within the text, and then given in full at the end of your work in a **reference list**. Any other items read for background information but not referred to in the text should be given in full at the end of your work in a **bibliography**.

References are used to:

- Enable the reader to locate the sources you have used;
- Help support your arguments and provide your work with credibility;
- Show the scope and breadth of your research;
- Acknowledge the source of an argument or idea. Failure to do so could result in a charge of plagiarism.

## Plagiarism

Plagiarism is defined by De Montfort University Student Regulations as “The significant use by a student of other people’s work and the submission of it as though it were his or her own”. For more information on how to avoid plagiarism please see [www.library.dmu.ac.uk/Images/Howto/HowtoAvoidPlagiarism.pdf](http://www.library.dmu.ac.uk/Images/Howto/HowtoAvoidPlagiarism.pdf)

## Citation styles

Various citation styles exist. They convey the same information, only the presentation of that information differs. Most style guides fall into two commonly used systems:

- **author-date system** (e.g. Harvard);
- **numeric system** (e.g. Vancouver, MLA, IEEE).

**Whichever system you use, it is important that you are consistent in its application.**

This guide is intended to provide you with advice on how to use the **Harvard** (author-date) system where you supply the author’s name and the date of publication of the document referred to *within the text*. In order to find out more about the document a reader can simply look up the author’s name in the reference list.

## Collecting and organising references

It is often not easy (or possible) to retrieve sources after you have written your text. For this reason it is best to keep a good record of everything that you use. Reference management software, such as RefWorks, EndNote, Mendeley or Zotero, will help you organise your references according to different citation systems and to add the citations to your text. Alternatively, you could store your references on index cards. For further information about reference management and help using RefWorks, please see our reference management guide at: [libguides.library.dmu.ac.uk/referencing](http://libguides.library.dmu.ac.uk/referencing)

### A note about dates and page numbers

If no date can be established you can use n.d. e.g. Webb (n.d.)

If the date can be established but only approximately you should use Webb (c.2001)

Electronic books read via an e-reader such as the Kindle do not have traditional page numbers. In this case, use the chapters instead for indicating the location of a quoted section;

**e.g.** Jones (2001, chapter 6) states that...

If you wish to cite a web resource that does not include page numbers, you can include any of the following in the text to cite the quotation:

- A paragraph number, if provided; alternatively, you could count paragraphs down from the beginning of the document.
- An overarching heading plus a paragraph number within that section.
- A short title in quotation marks, in cases in which the heading is too unwieldy to cite in full.

**e.g.** British Medical Association (2012, para. 2) states that...

**or** NHS (2012, Migraines, para. 3) states that...

**or** NHS (2012, Risks section, 'Driving and mobile phones') states that...

## 2. Citations in the text

All ideas taken from another source regardless of whether directly quoted or paraphrased need to be referenced in the text of your assignment. To link the information you use in your text to its source (book, article, etc.), put the author's name and the year of publication at the appropriate point in your text. If the author's name does not naturally occur in your writing, put the author's surname and date in brackets.

So if the author's name is James Robert Jones, you would use the surname Jones and the date to cite in the text.

**e.g.** There is some evidence (Jones, 1992) that these figures are incorrect.

If the author's name *is* part of the statement, put only the year in brackets:

**e.g.** Jones (1992) has provided evidence that these figures are incorrect.

If there are **two authors**, give both:

**e.g.** It is claimed that government in the information age will “work better and cost less” (Bellamy and Taylor 1998, p.41).

**Note:** if you are giving a direct quotation then you need to include the page number.

If there are **more than two authors**, cite only the first followed by 'et al.' (which means 'and others'):

**e.g.** ...adoptive parents were coping better with the physical demands of parenthood and found family life more enjoyable (Levy et al. 1991).

**Note:** up to three author names can be given in your reference list/bibliography.

If an author has published more documents in the same year, distinguish between them by adding lower-case letters:

**e.g.** In recent studies by Smith (1999a, 1999b, 1999c)...

### Secondary referencing

When an author quotes or cites another author and you wish to cite the original author you should first try to trace the original item. However, if this is not possible, you must acknowledge both sources in the text, but only include the item you actually read in your reference list.

**e.g.** If Jones discusses the work of Smith you could use:

Smith (2009) as cited by Jones (2012)

**or** Smith's 2009 study (cited in Jones 2012, p. 156) shows that...

Then cite Jones in full in your reference list.

### Information found in more than one source

If you find information in more than one source, you may want to include all the references to strengthen your argument. In which case, cite all sources in the same brackets, placing them in order of publication date (earliest first). Separate the references using a semi-colon (;).

**e.g.** Several writers (Jones 2011; Biggs 2010; Smith 2009) argue...

### 3. Electronic resources

Electronic books and electronic journals should be cited as print using the guidelines in sections 4.1 and 4.2 respectively.

The principles for citing electronic resources are the same as for other formats; use the author and date of publication in the text, then follow the convention as detailed below in 4.4. The nature of web resources means that author names are often not available and dates can be very vague. Therefore you will need to decide who is responsible for producing the web page and use them as the author, often this will be an organisation rather than a personal name. You should be able to find this information by following “about us” or “contact us” links.

If there is no author, or organisation you can use the title of the web page, if there is no title use a truncated web address (**you should consider whether this resource is suitable for academic work**).

### 4. Reference List/Bibliography

Full references of sources used should be listed at the end of your work as a reference list. This list of references is arranged alphabetically usually by author. You may also be required by your tutor to include a bibliography which should list all items used within the text but also include any other sources you have read as part of your research.

Whenever possible, elements of a bibliographical reference should be taken from the title page of the publication. Each reference should give the elements and punctuation as found below. Authors should always be in capitals.

If the author is James Robert Jones this will become JONES, J.R. Abdul-Rahman Al-Haddad would be AL-HADDAD, A.

The date in brackets after the author. In these examples, the source, (e.g. title) has been *italicised*; you can also emphasise the source by underlining or typing in **bold**. It does not usually matter which you use, so long as you are **consistent** throughout your reference list.

#### 4.1 References – Books

##### Books

AUTHOR(S) (Year) *Title*. Edition – if not the 1st. Place of publication: Publisher.

e.g. CLARKE, S. (2011) *Textile design*. London: Laurence King.

##### Books with two or three authors

e.g. MALTZMAN, R. and SHIRLEY, D. (c2011) *Green project management*. London: CRC Press.

**Books with more than three authors** – give the name of the first author, followed by ‘et al.’ (and others).

e.g. SHAW, R. et al. (2011) *Management essentials for doctors*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

**Books with one or more editor(s)** – Include the abbreviation (ed.) or (eds.) after their surname.

EDITOR(S) (ed./eds.) (Year) *Title*. Edition. Place of Publication: Publisher

**e.g.** FURSE, A. (ed.) (2011) *Theatre in pieces: politics, poetics and interdisciplinary collaboration: an anthology of play texts 1966-2010*. London: Methuen Drama.

### Chapters in books

AUTHOR(S) (Year) Title of chapter. In: AUTHOR(S)/EDITOR(S), ed(s). *Book title*. Edition. Place of publication: Publisher, Pages. (use p. or pp.)

**e.g.** TUCKMAN, A. (1999) Labour, skills and training. In: LEVITT, R. et al. (eds.) *The reorganised National Health Service*. 6th ed. Cheltenham: Stanley Thornes, pp. 135-155.

**Note:** Electronic books should be cited exactly the same as print, following the rules above.

## 4.2 References – other sources

### Journal articles

AUTHOR(S) (Year) Title of article. *Title of journal*, Vol. no. (Part no./Issue/Month), Pages, use p. or pp.

**e.g.** MAIMON, D. and BROWNING, C.R. (2012) Adolescents' Violent Victimization in the Neighbourhood: Situational and Contextual Determinants. *British Journal of Criminology*, 52 (4), pp. 808-833.

**Note:** If you are referencing an electronic journal article, use the standard referencing format for journal articles as detailed above.

### Newspaper articles

AUTHOR(S) (Year) Article title. *Newspaper title*, Day and Month (abbreviated), Pages, use p. or pp. (where there is no page number e.g. an online newspaper use the source).

**e.g.** GOODLEY, S. (2012) Bank of England cuts UK growth forecasts. *Guardian*, 8th Aug. retrieved from: <http://www.guardian.co.uk>

Newspaper articles taken from the Internet or a database should be cited as print using the rules above, only include the web address or database name if there are no page numbers. When including the web address just use the main web address e.g. <http://www.guardian.co.uk> not <http://www.guardian.co.uk/business/2012/aug/08/bank-of-england-cuts-uk-growth-forecasts>.

### Image(s) or Diagram(s) within a book

Where the image cited from a book is not the work of the author, additional reference to the work should be made, as follows:

#### Image:

ARTIST (Year) Title of the work. [Material types]. At or In: (where found, for example in a book or museum). AUTHOR/EDITOR of book. (Year). *Title*. Place of publication: Publisher, Page number.



**e.g.** MASOLINO, T. (1427) *The Temptation of Adam and Eve* [Painting]. In: BRUCE-MITFORD, M. (1996). *The Illustrated Book of Signs and Symbols*. London: Dorling Kindersley, p. 63.

or

#### Diagram:

**e.g.** MINTZBERG, H. (1979) *The basic parts of organisations – Mintzberg's model*. [Diagram]. In: COLE, G.A. (2004) *Management Theory and Practice*. 6th ed. London: Thomson, p. 186.

#### Papers in conference proceedings

AUTHOR(S) (Year) Title. In: EDITOR(S) *Title of conference proceedings. Place and date of conference* (unless included in title). Place of publication: Publisher, Pages, use p. or pp.

**e.g.** GIBSON, E.J. (1977) *The performance concept in building*. In: *Proceedings of the 7th CIB Triennial Congress, Edinburgh, September 1977*. London: Construction Research International, pp. 129-136.

#### Publications from a corporate body (e.g. Government publications)

NAME OF ISSUING BODY (Year) *Title*. Place of publication: Publisher, Report no. (where relevant), Pages, use p. or pp.

Please note that where the author is a government body, the country becomes the author. If an official report has individual authors these should not be used, instead use the official body.

**e.g.** GREAT BRITAIN. DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT, DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (1980) *38th Report, 1st April 1979 to 31st March 1980*. London: HMSO, 1979-80 HC. 798, pp. 70-81.

For reports known by the name of the chairman or person responsible for the inquiry, include a see reference in your reference list, in addition to the main entry.

**e.g.** Cadbury report – see – COMMITTEE ON THE FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE (1992).

COMMITTEE ON THE FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE (1992) *Report of the Committee on the Financial Aspects of Corporate Governance* (Cadbury Report). London: Gee.

For reports known by their title rather than their author/s, include a see reference in your reference list, in addition to the main entry.

**e.g.** The Cleveland Enquiry – see GREAT BRITAIN. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY (1988).

GREAT BRITAIN. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY (1988). *Report of the enquiry into child abuse in Cleveland*. London: HMSO, Cm 413.



## Market research reports

NAME OF ISSUING BODY (Year) *Title, date if available*. Edition (if available). Place of publication: Publisher, Report no. (if relevant)

**e.g.** MINTEL (2012) *Coffee: Mintel marketing report, April 2012*. London: Mintel International.

**or** KEY NOTE (2012) *Footwear: Key Note market report plus*. Hampton: Key Note.

## British Standards

NAME OF AUTHORISING ORGANISATION (Year of publication) *Number and title of standard*. Place of publication: Publisher.

**e.g.** BRITISH STANDARDS INSTITUTE (2008) *BS ISO 8178-2: Reciprocating internal combustion engines – Exhaust emission measurement*. London: British Standards Institute.

## Theses and dissertations

AUTHOR (Year) *Title*. Designation (Level, e.g. MSc, PhD.), Institution.

**e.g.** FENG, W. (2010) *Remote service provision for connected homes*. Unpublished thesis (PhD), De Montfort University.

## Exhibition catalogues

ARTIST (Year) *Title of exhibition* [Exhibition catalogue] Place of publication: Publisher.

**e.g.** HARRIS, W. (1983) *William Harris as designer* [Catalogue of an exhibition held at the Whitworth Art Gallery, 3 May – 4 June 1983] London: Arts Council.

## Music scores

COMPOSER (Year) *Title* [Music score] Place of publication: Publisher.

**e.g.** BACH, J.S. (1970) *Organ music* [Music score] New York: Dover Publications.

## 4.3 References – Live Performance

### Dance

COMPOSER or CHOREOGRAPHER (Year of premiere) *Title*. Company (optional). [Location. Date seen].

**e.g.** ASHTON, F. (1948) *Cinderella*. [Royal Opera House, London. 13th January 2004].

### Play

*Title* by Author (Year of performance) Directed by add DIRECTOR'S NAME. Company (optional). [Location. Date seen].

**e.g.** *An Inspector Calls* by J.B. Priestley (2009) Directed by STEPHEN DALDRY.  
[Arts Theatre, Cambridge. 11th May 2009]

#### 4.4 References – Electronic or audiovisual

##### Web Pages, e-mails and computer programs

Electronic references should contain the following elements:

AUTHOR(S) (Year) *Title of document* [Type of resource, e.g. e-mail, WWW] Organisation responsible (optional). Available from: web address [Date accessed].

**e.g.** NHS (2012) *Mobile phone safety* [WWW] NHS. Available from: <http://www.nhs.co.uk/conditions/Mobile-phone-safety/Pages/Introduction.aspx> [Accessed 08/08/12].

**If you are referencing an electronic journal guide, newspaper article or book, use the standard referencing format for that item. Guidelines can be found above.**

**Note:** Dates are not always available for web pages, if this is the case use (n.d.) where n.d. represents no date so that the reader knows you have omitted this element.

**e.g.** PATIENT.CO.UK (n.d.) *Hypothyroidism – Underactive Thyroid* [WWW] Patient.co.uk. Available from: <http://www.patient.co.uk/health/Hypothyroidism-Underactive-Thyroid.htm> [Accessed 08/08/12].

##### Computer Games

AUTHOR or ORIGINATOR (Year) *Title of game* [Medium of item, i.e. DVD, CD or online]. Platform (Xbox, PC etc.) Place of Publication: Publisher.

**e.g.** ELECTRONIC ARTS (2003). *The Sims*. [CD] PlayStation 2. London: Electronic Arts Inc.

##### Software

Individual authors are rarely acknowledged. If you cannot find a named author of an electronic source then use the organisation or title in place of the author.

AUTHOR or ORIGINATOR, (Year), *Title*, [Software], version/series etc, Place of publication: Publisher.

**e.g.** SPSS (2004), *SPSS for Windows*, [Software], version 12.0.1, Chicago: SPSS.

**E-mail message** from a public domain e.g. discussion boards or conferences.

AUTHOR (of message) (Year) 'Subject of the message' [Online] *Electronic conference or bulletin board*. Day/month of posting. Available from: email address.

**e.g.** BROWN, F. (2007) 'How to promote online reading' [Online] *Library and information professionals discussion list*. 12th May. Available from: <http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/LIS-profession.html>.

## Weblogs (Blogs)

AUTHOR. (Year) Title of the posting (if applicable). *Title of the site*. Weblog [Online] day/month of posting. Available from: web address. [Accessed date].

**e.g.** TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION (2008) Behaviour detection officers lead to arrest in Orlando. *Evolution of security*. Weblog [Online] 2nd April. Available from: <http://www.tsa.gov/blog/>. [Accessed 03/04/08].

## Wiki

WIKI NAME. (Year) *Title of article*. [Online]. Available from: web address. [Accessed date].

**e.g.** INFOTEACH. (2007) *Learning\_outcomes*. [Online]. Available from: [http://infoteach.org/wiki/doku.php/learning\\_outcomes](http://infoteach.org/wiki/doku.php/learning_outcomes). [Accessed 18/04/08].

## Social networking sites (Facebook, Twitter, Bebo etc)

These are web pages so will be referenced as such.

AUTHOR(S) (Year) *Title of page* [Title of web site] Day/month of posted message. Available from: web address [Date accessed].

**e.g.** JONES, S. (2009) *Referencing Group* [Facebook] 5th May. Available from: [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com). [Accessed 09/05/09].

**or** Guardian (2012) *Homeless teenager forced to live in tent after councils neglect his needs* <http://http://gu.com/p/39t49/tf> [Twitter] 8th August. Available from: <https://twitter.com/guardian/status/232976814790807552> [Accessed 08/08/12].

## Media (video, film, or broadcast)

*Title* (Year) Type of media. ORIGINATOR (e.g. director). Place of production: Production company.

**e.g.** *Rebel without a cause* (1983) Film. Directed by NICHOLAS RAY. USA: Warner Bros.

A television or radio broadcast should also include the date and time of broadcast and the episode number, where possible.

*Title* (Year) Type of media. ORIGINATOR (e.g. channel). Exact date and time of broadcast.

**e.g.** *Dyslexic children* (1999) TV. CHANNEL 4. 29th July, 1900 hrs.

**or** *Doctor Who* (2008) Episode 8, Silence in the library. TV. BBC1. 31st May, 1900 hrs.

**or** *Book of the week* (2008) The Atlantic Ocean. Radio. BBC RADIO 4. 21st July, 0945 hrs.

Individual contributors or interviewees should be cited as follows:

**e.g.** BROWN, G. (2008) Interview. In: *Today Programme*. Radio. BBC RADIO 4. 15th May, 0810 hrs.

## Online Film

SCREEN NAME. (Year). *Title of film* [type of resource]. Available from: web address [Date accessed].

**e.g.** LOSANGELESOPERA. (2008). *Tristan und Isolde podcast* [online video]. Available from: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SgqqxAilSRw> [Accessed 03/04/08].

## Podcasts

BROADCASTER (if available). (Year) *Name of podcast* [type of resource e.g. podcast]. Organisation/publisher responsible (optional), day of podcast (day, month). Available from: web address [date accessed].

**e.g.** HOPKIN, K. (2008) *The mythical daily water requirement* [podcast]. Scientific American, 2nd April. Available from: <http://www.sciam.com/podcast/episode.cfm?id=0BD1CF72-E411-2EE5-A4CDEE3447E81C93> [Accessed 03/04/08].

## Online images

ORIGINATOR (Year) *Description or title of image* [Online image]. Available from: web address [Date accessed].

**e.g.** SCIENCEBLOGS (2006) *Polar Bear* [Online image]. Available from: <http://scienceblogs.com/strangerfruit/polar-bear.jpg> [Accessed 15/06/09].

## 4.5 References – Personal Communication

A personal communication can be a letter, memo, email, fax, an interview, an informal conversation, telephone call or a lecture presentation. They should be included within the text but not generally in the reference list as the reference is not traceable.

When referencing a personal communication you should:

- Ask permission of the person before quoting them;
- Provide the communicator's initials and surname and the type of communication in the text;
- Provide the exact date of the communication.

**e.g.** In an email on 23rd July 2007 J. Brown stated that...

**or** In a conversation on 25th March 2008 B. Jones confirmed that...

**or** In a lecture on 8th January 2008 V. Rolfe outlined...

## Lecture notes on Blackboard

NAME. (Year of presentation). *Lecture title*, from module code (capitalised) title of module. Teaching organisation, location and date of presentation. Available from: Blackboard [Accessed date].

**e.g.** POULTON, A. (2008). *Referencing and citation – Harvard style*, from BIOM2060 Professional Skills 2. De Montfort University, Kimberlin Library on 6th November. Available from: Blackboard. [Accessed 29/07/08].

## 4.6 References – Reference Works

### Dictionaries/Encyclopaedias

If an encyclopaedia entry has a named author then the format for a chapter in a book should be used with the addition of the encyclopaedia volume number.

AUTHOR(S) (Year) Title of chapter. In: AUTHOR(S)/EDITOR(S) ed(s). *Title*, Volume (if applicable), Edition. Place of publication: Publisher, Pages. (use p. or pp.)

**e.g.** KESNER, R.P. (2002). Memory neurobiology. In: RAMACHANDRAN, V.S. *Encyclopedia of the human brain*, Vol. 2. San Diego: Academic Press, pp. 783-796.

If there is no author then the title (e.g. Oxford English Dictionary) should be used both within the text and in the reference list.

*Title*. (Year) Volume (if applicable), Edition. Place of publication: Publisher.

**e.g.** *The Oxford English Dictionary* (1989) Vol. 3, Oxford: Clarendon Press.

**Note:** If you are referencing from an online source use the standard referencing format for reference works as detailed above.

### Classical Works

Principal classical works such as the Bible and Koran/Qur'an should only be included in the text and not in the reference list. Appropriate details should be included but no year should be included.

**e.g.** 'Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself' (John 15:4, New International Version).

## 5. Further Information

If you need further help please contact your subject librarian or email [justask@dmu.ac.uk](mailto:justask@dmu.ac.uk). Alternatively further guidance on citation and referencing can be obtained from the following online sources.

**Remember, it is always advisable to consult the person for whom you are writing, whether it is a tutor or an editor, as to which style of referencing they want you to use.**

HARNACK, A. and KLEPPINGER, E. (2003) *Online! A reference guide to using internet sources* [WWW]. St Martin's. Available from: <http://www.bedfordstmartins.com/online/index.html> [Accessed 15/08/12].

BOURNEMOUTH UNIVERSITY (2011) *BU guide to citation in the Harvard style*. [WWW]. Bournemouth University. Available from: [http://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/library/citing\\_references/docs/Citing\\_Refs.pdf](http://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/library/citing_references/docs/Citing_Refs.pdf) [Accessed 19/06/12].

UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM (2006) *Referencing* [WWW]. University of Birmingham, Information Services. Available from: <http://www.i-cite.bham.ac.uk/referencing.shtml> [Accessed 15/08/12].

UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST OF ENGLAND (2009) *A guide to references* [WWW]. University of the West of England, Library Services. Available from: [http://www.uwe.ac.uk/library/resources/general/info\\_study\\_skills/refs.htm](http://www.uwe.ac.uk/library/resources/general/info_study_skills/refs.htm) [Accessed 15/08/12].

This guide is also available on the library web site at:  
[www.library.dmu.ac.uk/Images/Selfstudy/Harvard.pdf](http://www.library.dmu.ac.uk/Images/Selfstudy/Harvard.pdf)

A guide to referencing and using RefWorks is available at:  
[libguides.library.dmu.ac.uk/referencing](http://libguides.library.dmu.ac.uk/referencing)





