CSE Citation Style

The information in this guide is based on the CSE (Council of Science Editors) Manual, 8th edition, for style and format as recommended for medical and scientific writers. While the CSE manual fully covers style, special scientific conventions and manuscript preparation, this guide is intended as a quick reference tool when citing books, journal and reference sources in the paper and in the reference list. For help with cases that are not addressed in the examples provided here, please refer to the CSE style manual: Scientific Style and Format: The CSE Manual for Authors, Editors, and Publishers, 8th Ed. (2014), available at the Library’s Reference Desk.

The CSE manual offers two citation styles, the citation-sequence system and the name-year system. The St. Catherine University Biology Department prefers that students use the name-year system; this guide will therefore follow this style.

In the name-year system, citations in the text consist of the author’s last name and the year of publication. A reader can easily turn from an in-text citation to the alphabetic list of references and identify the source of the information. Many variations of citation exist, depending on multiple authors and other special cases – some variations are given on page 2.

In the name-year system, references are listed at the end of the paper in alphabetical order by the first author’s surname. After the first line, the second and subsequent lines are indented (called a hanging indent) in the reference list. NOTE: this is a departure from the CSE Manual which aligns all lines to the margins; the St.Kate’s Biology Department prefers that entries are single-spaced, with a double-space between references.

JOURNAL ARTICLES


Organization as author


  In text:  (International Committee of Medical Journal Editors 1995)  OR  (ICMJE 1995)

When an organizational name is cited as an author, the abbreviated version is preferred, although the full name is also acceptable. If the abbreviation is used, it must be given first in the reference list, enclosed in square brackets. Use of abbreviation should match citation within the text, where the abbreviation is given in parentheses.

BOOKS

General format:  Author(s) or editor(s). Year. Title of book. Edition. Place of publication: publisher name. Number of pages.


Edited books:

Reference books:

Single-volume reference book with no separate author/editor for the relevant entry
   Plasmid; p. 682-3.  
   In text: (Singleton and Sainsbury 2001).

Multi-volume reference with no separate author/editor for the relevant entry
   In text: (Cajori 1929).

Single-volume reference book, when the author for the entry used is different from author/editor of book
   In text: (Weiss 1993).

Multi-volume reference book, when the author for the entry used is different from author/editor of book
   In text: (Prins 1995).

Web Pages

The following example is for a portion, or titled page, within a larger Web site. Begin with an author when available; if no
author, use the organization sponsoring the site. Follow in-text citation guidelines for author(s) and organizations.

Skoglund LG and Blunt T. 2012. The plant diagnostic lab experience [Internet]. [St. Paul (MN)]: American
   apsnetfeatures/Pages/diagnostician.aspx
   In text: (Skoglund and Blunt 2012).

Other rules and examples for documents found on the Internet are in the CSE Manual, pages 556-64, at the Library Reference Desk.

Variations of In-Text Citations

Sources cited are near the author name in text
If sources by the same author are cited close to mention of the author’s name, simply give the years of publication.

   Example: When studies performed by Kliener (1982, 1982, 1995) are closely studied…..

Two-author citations
Both names are to be given, separated by “and,” followed by the date. If the authors have the same surname, their initials are added.

   Example: The recent research on this problem (Byer and Dillans 1991) show …
   Example: Studies recently published (Nelson TB and Nelson CP 1992) have concluded…

Three or more authors

   Example: When later studies (Dawson et al. 1990) were made public…

Multiple citations at one point
When 2 or more sources with different authors are cited at one point, they are listed chronologically from the earliest to the latest. Those published in the same year are alphabetized.

   Example: Others doing similar research (Daniels 1980; Smith et al. 1985; Brown 1988; Calvin 1988; Dawson 1988)
   have established that…