Chicago Style (16th Edition) Citations

You probably know that citing your work properly is important in order to show your prof you have academic integrity, and to allow them to find your references again. But do you know how to cite?

In this video you will learn the basics of citing a journal article retrieved from an electronic source in Chicago Style, 16th edition. Note that Chicago Style encompasses two different styles, but we will focus on the author-date style.

I’ll use the article “The effects of clown intervention on worries and emotional responses in children undergoing surgery” as my example.

In Chicago Style, the in-text citation sits within your paper after you’ve referenced material from that source. It includes the author’s last name, the date, and the page number for the information you’re citing.

In this case, I’ll write Costa Fernandes and Arriaga 2010, 410 in brackets.

The in-text citation is short, and it directs the reader to the full reference at the end of your paper.

This section at the end of your paper is called a Bibliography and it lists all the citations used in your paper.

The Bibliography is alphabetized, and the second line and any subsequent lines in each citation are indented.

Chicago Style citations start with the author’s name, last name first, with the name written in full. If there are multiple authors, the first author’s last name goes first; for subsequent authors, the first name goes first. Follow author names with a period.

Be sure to list the author names as they appear and not in alphabetical order.

Next, write the year of publication followed by a period.

Only give the year, not the days and months of publication.

The article title is written in plain text and enclosed in quotation marks. Follow with a period which is within the closing quotation mark.

The first word of the article title is capitalized, as are all proper nouns.

The journal title is italicized and capitalized. Do not follow the journal title with a period.

The journal title is followed by the volume number and issue number, which are written in plain text.

The issue number is also encased in brackets and followed by a colon.

Now you’ll include the page range for the article you’re citing.
Lastly, you’ll include the DOI number for the journal article when it is available (print journal articles and older electronic journal articles may not have one).

DOI stands for Digital Object Identifier. It is the most stable internet address for the article and you can usually find it below the article’s abstract.

Chicago Style now uses DOIs instead of URLs in their citations because DOIs do not change from database to database, so it is a more reliable way to find the article again.

When creating your citations, be sure to pay close attention to the punctuation and style used to format each citation.

For more information on how to cite journal articles, or other resources, start from the library homepage at lib.uwaterloo.ca and click on the Online Reference Shelf link, which is 6th from the top in the right-hand menu.

Now click on the Citation/Style Guide link to find a list of resources to help you with Chicago Style citations.

If you need help with this process, you can also ask a librarian. We’re happy to help!