

An introduction to the author-date (Harvard) referencing system

The author date system, also known as the Harvard system, is often used in the humanities and sciences. When using this system a brief reference (author and date) is inserted in the text of the essay with full details of the source material included in a reference list at the end of the essay.

The information in this handout is based on the *Style manual for authors, editors and printers*, 2002, 6th edn, John Wiley and Sons, Milton Qld. See below for a list of other resources.

Citing a work in the body of an essay

When using the author-date system, you need to acknowledge the source of a reference within your essay, usually directly following the reference.

Use the family name of the author(s) plus the year of publication in brackets. For example:

A study by Chalmers (1980) has shown that...

... a later study also reached the same conclusion (Heinberg 2003).

If quoting more than one work, separate the references with a semicolon.

For example:

... and this is supported by a number of recent studies (Meiras 2004; Castle & Kelly 2004).

Creating a reference list

Any works cited in an essay will also have to be included in the reference list. The author-date system has the following characteristics:

- Minimal use of capital letters, except for journal/newspaper titles
- No full stops or spaces used with people's initials
- Books and journal titles in italics or underlined
- Single quotation marks used for the titles of articles and book chapters
- All parts of the entry separated by commas, with a full stop after the final part

Book citations

The most common elements of a book citation are: author; year; title; and publication details. For example:

Webel, C P 2004, *Terror, terrorism, and the human condition*, Palgrave Macmillan, New York.

For a later edition of a book, add the number of the edition after the title:

Estrin, S & Laidler, D 1995, *Introduction to microeconomics*, 4th edn, Harvester, New York.

When a book or report is published by an organisation, company or government department, use the organisation's name as the author:

Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission 2004, *A last resort: a summary guide to the National Inquiry into Children in Immigration Detention*, Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission, Sydney.

When a book has an editor or editors (rather than an author) add "ed/eds" after the names:

Crawford, P & Maddern, P (eds) 2001, *Women as Australian citizens: underlying histories*, Melbourne University Press, Carlton Vic.

When a book has more than three authors, use the first author's name plus *et al* for the in-text citation.

Use all of the names in the reference list:

Revelli, A, Tur-Kaspa, I, Holte, J G & Massobrio, M 2003, *Biotechnology of human reproduction*, Parthenon, Boca Raton.

For a chapter from a book, include the title of the chapter in single quotes:

Sen, G 2002, 'Women, poverty and population: issues for the concerned environmentalist', in Schmidtz, D & Willott, E (eds), *Environmental ethics: what really matters, what really works*, Oxford University Press, New York, pp. 248-54.

Journal Citations

The common elements of a journal article citation are: author; title of article; year; title of journal; issue details; and page reference numbers.

Article titles are enclosed in single quotation marks and journal titles are in italics. Capital letters should be used in journal titles (but not article titles). For example:

Friedman, S L 2004, 'Embodying civility: civilizing processes and symbolic citizenship in Southeastern China', *The Journal of Asian Studies*, vol. 63, no. 3, pp. 687-718.

Articles from electronic journals also need to include information about when and where the article was seen:

Ershov S, Mikhaylovskaya, I & Novik O 2006, 'Theory of EM monitoring of sea bottom geothermal areas', *Journal of Applied Geophysics*, vol. 58, no. 4, pp. 330-350, viewed 10 April 2006, <<http://www.sciencedirect.com/>>.

When citing an article from a magazine or newspaper, use a date rather than a volume or number:

Brennan, F 2006, 'Every embryo deserves respect', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 3 January, p. 9.

Web Citations

If citing information from a website, wherever possible include the following information: the person or organisation responsible for the site; the site date, which is the date when the website was created or revised; the name of the website; the date on which you viewed the website and the URL.

For a whole website, the name of the website is in italics:

Young Media Australia 2002, *Young Media Australia*, viewed 12 April 2006, <<http://www.youngmedia.org.au/>>.

For a document from a website, the name of the document is in italics:

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2005, *A picture of Australia's children*, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, viewed 25 March 2006, <<http://www.aihw.gov.au/publications/phe/apoac/apoac.pdf>>.

Links to more information

More information and other examples of referencing are available at the following places:
Referencing using the Harvard author-date system (University of South Australia)

<http://www.unisanet.unisa.edu.au/learningconnection/student/learningAdvisors/documents/harvard-referencing.pdf>

Harvard (author-date) style (University of Melbourne)

http://www.lib.unimelb.edu.au/cite/harvard_dis/

Harvard (author-date) style examples (Monash University)

<http://www.lib.monash.edu.au/tutorials/citing/harvard.html>

Referencing using the author-date or Harvard system (University of Tasmania)

<http://www.utas.edu.au/library/assist/gpoa/gpoa2.html>