

chicago manual of style 17th edition

scholarly article citation

The chicago manual of style 17th edition scholarly article citation is a cornerstone for academic integrity and clear communication within scholarly writing. This comprehensive guide provides the framework for accurately referencing published articles, ensuring readers can locate and verify the sources used. Mastering its nuances is crucial for students, researchers, and academics aiming to present their work with professionalism and credibility. This article will delve into the intricacies of citing scholarly articles according to the 17th edition of the Chicago Manual of Style (CMOS), covering both the notes-bibliography and author-date systems. We will explore the essential components of a citation, variations for different publication types, and common pitfalls to avoid, equipping you with the knowledge to confidently format your scholarly article citations.

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Understanding the Two Citation Systems

The Chicago Manual of Style offers two distinct systems for academic citation: the notes-bibliography system and the author-date system. While both aim for clarity and accuracy, they differ in their implementation and are favored by different academic disciplines. Understanding these differences is the first step in correctly applying CMOS for your scholarly article citations.

The notes-bibliography system utilizes footnotes or endnotes for in-text citations, with a comprehensive bibliography appearing at the end of the work. This system is prevalent in the humanities, including literature, history, and the arts. The author-date system, on the other hand, uses parenthetical author-date citations within the text, followed by a reference list. This system is more commonly found in the social sciences and natural sciences.

Core Components of a Scholarly Article Citation

Regardless of the citation system employed, several key pieces of information are fundamental to a complete and accurate citation of a scholarly article. These elements allow readers to identify the specific source and retrieve it if necessary. Omitting any of these core components can render a citation incomplete and less useful.

The essential components generally include:

- Author(s) name(s)
- Title of the article
- Title of the journal or publication
- Volume and issue number (for journals)
- Year of publication
- Page numbers of the article
- DOI (Digital Object Identifier) or URL (if applicable)

Author(s) Name(s)

The author's name is typically listed in a specific order depending on the citation system. For the notes-bibliography system, the author's first name appears before their last name in the notes, but the last name comes first in the bibliography. The author-date system consistently lists the last name first for both in-text and reference list entries.

Title of the Article

The title of the article is usually enclosed in quotation marks. This helps distinguish it from the title of the larger publication in which it appears.

Title of the Journal or Publication

The title of the journal, magazine, or newspaper is typically italicized. This formatting clearly differentiates the periodical from the article itself.

Volume and Issue Number

For scholarly journals, the volume number is crucial for locating an article, often followed by the issue number. These are usually presented numerically, with the volume preceding the issue, often separated by a comma or colon.

Year of Publication

The year in which the article was published is a vital piece of information for establishing the context and timeliness of the research. It is typically placed near the end of the citation in the

bibliography or reference list.

Page Numbers

The specific page range where the article can be found within the publication is essential for readers to pinpoint the exact location of the cited material.

DOI or URL

The Digital Object Identifier (DOI) is a persistent link that uniquely identifies an electronic document and is preferred over a URL when available. If no DOI is provided, a URL can be included, especially for online-only articles or those accessed through online databases.

Citing Journal Articles: Notes-Bibliography System

The notes-bibliography system requires a distinct format for both the in-text notes and the final bibliography entry when citing scholarly journal articles. Adhering to these specifications ensures consistency and facilitates easy reference for your readers.

Footnote/Endnote Format

In the notes-bibliography system, the first note for a given source is typically a full citation, while subsequent notes are shortened. The full footnote or endnote includes the author's first name first, followed by their last name, the article title in quotation marks, the journal title in italics, the volume and issue numbers, the year in parentheses, and the page number(s) being referenced.

For example:

1. Jane Doe, "The Evolution of Citation Practices," *Academic Writing Quarterly* 25, no. 3 (2022): 45.

Bibliography Format

The bibliography entry for a journal article under this system reverses the author's name (last name first), omits the parentheses around the year, and lists the page numbers for the entire article. It also includes the DOI or URL if applicable.

For example:

Doe, Jane. "The Evolution of Citation Practices." *Academic Writing Quarterly* 25, no. 3 (2022): 45-60.
<https://doi.org/10.1000/acw.2022.25.3.45>.

Citing Journal Articles: Author-Date System

The author-date system simplifies the citation process by integrating author and date directly into the text and providing a concise reference list at the end.

In-Text Citation Format

Within the text, the author's last name and the year of publication are placed in parentheses. If a specific page is being referenced, it is included after the year, separated by a comma.

For example:

The concept of citation evolution is well-documented (Doe 2022, 45).

Reference List Format

The reference list entry for a journal article in the author-date system closely resembles the bibliography format of the notes-bibliography system, but it begins with the author's last name first, followed by their first name. The year of publication is placed immediately after the author's name, enclosed in parentheses.

For example:

Doe, Jane. 2022. "The Evolution of Citation Practices." *Academic Writing Quarterly* 25 (3): 45-60.
<https://doi.org/10.1000/acw.2022.25.3.45>.

Citing Magazine and Newspaper Articles

While the core principles remain the same, citing magazine and newspaper articles involves slightly different formatting compared to scholarly journals, as these publications often have less rigorous academic conventions. The primary distinction lies in the absence of volume and issue numbers and the inclusion of the publication date more prominently.

Notes-Bibliography System

For magazines and newspapers, the notes will include the author's name, the article title in quotation marks, the magazine or newspaper title in italics, the specific date of publication (month, day, year), and the page number(s).

Example Note:

2. John Smith, "Local Elections Spark Debate," *City Times*, October 26, 2023, B1.

The corresponding bibliography entry will list the author's last name first, followed by the full publication date and page number.

Example Bibliography:

Smith, John. "Local Elections Spark Debate." *City Times*, October 26, 2023, B1.

Author-Date System

In the author-date system, the in-text citation will include the author's last name and the publication date. The reference list entry will follow a similar structure to the bibliography entry, with the year prominently placed after the author's name.

Example In-Text Citation:

(Smith 2023)

Example Reference List Entry:

Smith, John. 2023. "Local Elections Spark Debate." *City Times*, October 26, B1.

Citing Articles from Edited Volumes

When citing an article that is part of a larger work edited by someone else, such as a collection of essays or a festschrift, the citation must acknowledge both the author of the individual article and the editor of the volume. This ensures proper attribution to all contributors.

Notes-Bibliography System

The note will identify the author of the chapter, the chapter title, followed by "in," the title of the edited volume (italicized), the editor's name(s) (often introduced by "ed." or "eds."), and then the page numbers of the chapter and publication information for the volume.

Example Note:

3. Emily Carter, "The Semiotics of Silence," in *Understanding Communication Theory*, ed. Robert Davis, 112-35 (New York: Academic Press, 2021).

The bibliography entry will be structured similarly, with the editor's name following the volume title, and the author of the chapter's name presented with the last name first.

Example Bibliography:

Carter, Emily. "The Semiotics of Silence." In *Understanding Communication Theory*, edited by Robert Davis, 112-35. New York: Academic Press, 2021.

Author-Date System

The author-date system requires the author's last name and the year in the in-text citation. The reference list entry will include the author of the chapter, the chapter title, "in," the italicized title of the edited volume, the editor's name(s) preceded by "ed." or "eds.", and the page numbers, followed by publication details.

Example In-Text Citation:

(Carter 2021)

Example Reference List Entry:

Carter, Emily. 2021. "The Semiotics of Silence." In *Understanding Communication Theory*, ed. Robert Davis, 112-35. New York: Academic Press.

In-Text Citations

In-text citations serve as brief pointers to full sources listed in the bibliography or reference list. They are crucial for allowing readers to track down the original material and for acknowledging the ideas and words of others within your scholarly article.

The specific format of in-text citations is dictated by the chosen CMOS system. In the notes-bibliography system, this involves numbered footnotes or endnotes. The author-date system uses parenthetical citations.

It is important to ensure that every piece of information that is not common knowledge and is drawn from an external source is properly cited. This includes direct quotations, paraphrased ideas, statistics, and any other data or arguments that originated elsewhere. Consistent and accurate in-text citation is a hallmark of responsible scholarly practice.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the primary difference between the notes-bibliography and author-date systems in CMOS 17th edition?

A: The primary difference lies in how in-text citations are presented and the structure of the final list of sources. The notes-bibliography system uses numbered footnotes or endnotes in the text and a comprehensive bibliography at the end. The author-date system uses parenthetical author-date citations within the text and a reference list at the end.

Q: How do I cite a scholarly article with multiple authors in CMOS 17th edition?

A: For the notes-bibliography system, in the first note, list all authors' names. In subsequent notes and the bibliography, for two authors, list both. For three or more authors, list the first author's name followed by "et al." in the notes, and in the bibliography, list all authors up to ten; for more than ten, list the first author followed by "et al." The author-date system generally lists all authors in both the in-text citation and the reference list up to three authors, and for more than three, the first author followed by "et al."

Q: Should I include a DOI or URL for online articles in my CMOS 17th edition citations?

A: Yes, if an article has a Digital Object Identifier (DOI), it should always be included. DOIs are persistent identifiers that ensure readers can access the article even if the original URL changes. If no DOI is available, and the article was accessed online, provide the URL.

Q: How do I cite a scholarly article that I found in a database, like JSTOR or Project MUSE, using CMOS 17th edition?

A: For articles accessed through online databases in the notes-bibliography system, the citation generally includes the author, article title, journal title, volume, issue, year, and page numbers, followed by the database name and the DOI or URL. In the author-date system, the reference list entry follows a similar structure, with the database name often omitted if the DOI is provided.

Q: What is the correct way to format the year in CMOS 17th edition citations for scholarly articles?

A: In the notes-bibliography system, the year of publication for a journal article is enclosed in parentheses in the notes and placed at the end of the citation in the bibliography. In the author-date system, the year is placed immediately after the author's name in both the in-text citation and the reference list entry, enclosed in parentheses.

Q: Do I need to include the full date (month and day) for scholarly journal articles in CMOS 17th edition?

A: Generally, no. For scholarly journal articles, the volume and issue numbers, along with the year, are sufficient for locating the article. Full dates are more commonly included for magazine and newspaper articles.

Q: What if a scholarly article has no page numbers, such as an online-only publication?

A: For online-only articles without page numbers, you typically omit the page number information. If the article has distinct sections or paragraphs that are individually numbered, you might cite those specific markers if necessary for precise referencing. The DOI or URL becomes even more critical in such cases.

Q: How does CMOS 17th edition handle anonymous scholarly articles?

A: If a scholarly article is published anonymously, and no author is listed, you begin the citation with the title of the article itself. In the notes-bibliography system, this title would appear in the note and bibliography entry. In the author-date system, the title would start the reference list entry.

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