

chicago style bibliography page examples

Mastering the Chicago Style Bibliography Page: Comprehensive Examples and Guidelines

chicago style bibliography page examples are a cornerstone of academic and professional writing, providing a standardized method for acknowledging sources and enabling readers to locate them. Properly formatted bibliographies are not merely administrative requirements; they are crucial for academic integrity, demonstrating a writer's engagement with existing scholarship, and allowing for the verification of information. This comprehensive guide will delve into the intricacies of creating a Chicago style bibliography, offering detailed examples for various source types and explaining the underlying principles that govern its structure and content. We will explore common source formats, discuss the importance of consistency, and provide practical tips to ensure your bibliography is both accurate and effective. Understanding these elements is essential for any writer aiming to adhere to Chicago style guidelines, whether for a research paper, thesis, or scholarly article.

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Understanding the Purpose of a Chicago Style Bibliography

The Chicago Manual of Style (CMOS) bibliography, often referred to as "Works Cited" in the author-date system or "Bibliography" in the notes-bibliography system, serves several vital functions.

Primarily, it is a comprehensive list of all the sources a writer has consulted and cited within their work. This allows readers to follow the writer's research trail, verify information, and explore the topic further by consulting the original sources. Beyond simple acknowledgment, a well-crafted bibliography showcases the breadth and depth of a writer's research, demonstrating their engagement with the relevant academic conversation. It upholds academic honesty by giving credit where it is due, preventing plagiarism and ensuring that the intellectual contributions of others are recognized. The standardized format also contributes to the overall professionalism and credibility of the written work.

Core Elements of a Chicago Style Bibliography Entry

Regardless of the source type, Chicago style bibliographies adhere to a specific structure for each entry. While variations exist based on the source medium, a few core elements are consistently present. These elements help readers quickly identify and locate the information needed. The primary components include the author's name, the title of the work, publication information (such as publisher and date), and locational information (like page numbers or URLs). The order and punctuation of these elements are critical and follow strict conventions outlined in the Chicago Manual of Style. Understanding these foundational pieces is key to constructing accurate and compliant bibliography entries for any Chicago style document.

The author's name is typically listed with the last name first, followed by the first name and any middle initials. For works with multiple authors, specific rules apply regarding the number of authors listed and the use of "and." The title of the work should be presented accurately, with significant words capitalized and the title italicized or placed in quotation marks depending on the source type. Publication information provides the context for the source, including the publisher for books and the journal name and volume/issue numbers for articles. Finally, locational details, such as page numbers for print sources or URLs for online resources, guide the reader directly to the material being referenced.

Chicago Style Bibliography Page Examples: Books

Books are a fundamental source type in academic writing, and Chicago style provides clear guidelines for citing them. The format will vary slightly depending on the number of authors, whether the book is an edited collection, or if you are citing a specific chapter within a book.

Single-Author Books

For books authored by a single individual, the entry begins with the author's last name, followed by their first name. The title of the book is italicized, and publication details include the city of publication, the publisher, and the year of publication. Pay close attention to punctuation, as commas and periods are strategically placed.

- Last Name, First Name. *Title of Book*. City of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication.

Example:

- Smith, John. *The History of Chicago Architecture*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2020.

Edited Books

When citing an entire book that has been edited rather than authored by a single person, the editor's name replaces the author's name, and the role of "editor" or "eds." is indicated. The formatting for the title and publication details remains consistent with single-author books.

- Editor's Last Name, First Name, ed. *Title of Book*. City of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication.

Example:

- Johnson, Emily, ed. *Essays on Modern Literature*. New York: Penguin Books, 2018.

Books with Multiple Authors

Chicago style differentiates how books with two or three authors are cited compared to those with four or more. For two or three authors, all are listed in the bibliography, with the first author's name inverted. For four or more authors, only the first author's name is given, followed by "et al."

- Last Name, First Name, First Name Last Name, and First Name Last Name. *Title of Book*. City of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication.
- Last Name, First Name, et al. *Title of Book*. City of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication.

Example (two authors):

- Williams, Robert, and Sarah Chen. *Urban Planning in the 21st Century*. London: Routledge, 2019.

Example (four authors):

- Davis, Michael, et al. *Global Economic Trends*. Boston: Harvard University Press, 2021.

Chapters in Edited Books

Citing a chapter or essay within an edited collection requires providing details about both the chapter author and the overall book. This entry includes the chapter author's name, the chapter title (in quotation marks), the word "in," the book title (italicized), the editor(s), and the book's publication information.

- Chapter Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Chapter." In *Title of Book*, edited by Editor's First Name Last Name, Chapter Page Range. City of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication.

Example:

- Brown, David. "The Impact of Technology on Education." In *Contemporary Educational Issues*, edited by Robert Lee, 45-67. New York: Oxford University Press, 2022.

Books with Corporate Authors

When an organization or institution is the author of a book, its name is used in place of an individual author's name. The rest of the citation follows the standard book format.

- Corporate Author Name. *Title of Book*. City of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication.

Example:

- World Health Organization. *Global Health Statistics 2023*. Geneva: WHO Press, 2023.

Chicago Style Bibliography Page Examples: Periodical Articles

Citing articles from journals, magazines, and newspapers requires specific formatting to guide readers to the correct publication and pages.

Journal Articles with DOI

Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) provide a persistent link to online journal articles. When a DOI is available, it should be included in the citation, as it is the most reliable way to locate the article.

- Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." *Title of Journal* Volume, no. Issue (Year): Page Range. DOI.

Example:

- Garcia, Maria. "Climate Change and its Effects on Coastal Ecosystems." *Environmental Science Journal* 35, no. 2 (2021): 112-130. doi:10.1080/00139157.2021.1890123.

Journal Articles Without DOI (Print)

For print journal articles that do not have a DOI, the citation includes the author, article title, journal title, volume, issue, year, and the page range where the article can be found.

- Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." *Title of Journal* Volume, no. Issue (Year): Page Range.

Example:

- Kim, Ji-hoon. "Korean Cinema in the Digital Age." *Film Studies Quarterly* 12, no. 4 (2020): 201-225.

Magazine Articles

Magazine articles are cited with the author, article title, magazine title (italicized), publication date, and page number(s). Unlike journals, magazines are usually cited with the full date of publication.

- Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." *Title of Magazine*, Month Day, Year: Page Range.

Example:

- Miller, Sarah. "The Future of Artificial Intelligence." *Wired*, October 2022: 50-55.

Newspaper Articles

Citing newspaper articles requires the author's name (if available), the article title, the newspaper

title (italicized), the publication date, and the page number(s). For online newspaper articles, a URL or DOI may also be included.

- Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." *Title of Newspaper*, Month Day, Year, Section Page.

Example:

- Gonzalez, Carlos. "City Council Approves New Zoning Laws." *Chicago Tribune*, November 15, 2023, A1.

Chicago Style Bibliography Page Examples: Online Sources

The internet has become a primary source for many writers. Chicago style provides specific formats for citing various online materials, emphasizing the need for retrieval dates and URLs.

Websites

When citing an entire website or a specific page on a website, include the author (if discernible), the title of the specific page or website, the name of the overall website (if different from the page title), the publication or last updated date (if available), and the URL. A retrieval date is often included for content that may change over time.

- Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Specific Page." Name of Overall Website. Last Modified/Published Date. Accessed Month Day, Year. URL.

Example:

- National Archives. "Exploring Presidential Libraries." National Archives. Accessed November 20, 2023. <https://www.archives.gov/presidential-libraries>.

Online Reports

Reports published online, often by organizations or government agencies, are cited similarly to other web content. Include the author, title, and publication details, along with the URL.

- Author's Last Name, First Name. *Title of Report*. Publisher/Organization. Last Modified/Published

Date. Accessed Month Day, Year. URL.

Example:

- Pew Research Center. *The State of Social Media in 2023*. Pew Research Center. Published October 10, 2023. Accessed November 20, 2023. <https://www.pewresearch.org/social-media-report-2023>.

Blog Posts

Blog posts are cited like other articles, but the title of the blog is italicized. Include the author, post title (in quotation marks), blog title, publication date, and URL. Retrieval dates are also recommended.

- Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Blog Post." *Title of Blog*, Month Day, Year. Accessed Month Day, Year. URL.

Example:

- Chen, Li. "Innovative Teaching Methods." *Educational Insights Blog*, September 15, 2023. Accessed November 20, 2023. <https://www.educationalinsights.com/blog/innovative-teaching>.

Chicago Style Bibliography Page Examples: Other Source Types

Chicago style encompasses a wide array of source types beyond books and periodicals, including dissertations, government documents, and interviews.

Dissertations and Theses

Citing dissertations and theses requires specifying the author, the title of the work, the degree sought, the university, and the year of completion. If accessed online, include the database or URL.

- Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Dissertation." PhD diss., University Name, Year.

Example:

- Rodriguez, Sofia. "The Impact of Urban Green Spaces on Community Well-being." PhD diss.,

Government Documents

Government documents are cited by the issuing agency, followed by the title of the document, and publication details. For congressional documents, the Congressional Information Service (CIS) number or other identifiers are often included.

- Government Agency. *Title of Document*. Publication City: Publisher, Year.

Example:

- United States, Congress, House Committee on Foreign Affairs. *Report on International Trade Agreements*. 117th Cong., 1st sess., 2021. H. Rept. 117-100.

Interviews

When citing an interview, include the name of the interviewee, the type of interview (e.g., personal interview, email interview), and the date it occurred. If the interview is published or recorded, include publication information.

- Interviewee's Last Name, First Name. Personal interview. Month Day, Year.

Example:

- Williams, Eleanor. Personal interview. October 25, 2023.

Formatting and Organization of the Bibliography Page

The Chicago style bibliography page should be titled "Bibliography" and appear at the end of the document. Entries are typically double-spaced, with a hanging indent for each entry. This means the first line of each entry is flush with the left margin, and subsequent lines are indented. Alphabetical order by the author's last name is the standard organizational principle. If a source has no author, it is alphabetized by the first significant word of the title. Consistency in formatting is paramount; once a specific style is chosen for a particular element (e.g., placement of the year), it must be applied uniformly throughout the bibliography.

The use of italics for titles of books and journals, and quotation marks for titles of articles and chapters, is a key visual differentiator. Publisher information for books typically includes the city of publication, though multiple cities may be listed if the publisher has offices in several locations. For online sources, the inclusion of a stable URL or DOI is crucial for ensuring that readers can access the original material. When retrieving information from websites, always check for a publication date or a "last updated" notice to provide the most accurate citation possible. If no date is available, the practice is to note "n.d." for "no date."

Common Mistakes to Avoid in Chicago Style Bibliographies

Several common errors can detract from the professionalism and accuracy of a Chicago style bibliography. One of the most frequent mistakes is inconsistency in formatting. This can include variations in capitalization, punctuation, or the inclusion/exclusion of specific details like DOIs or retrieval dates. Another pitfall is misplacing or omitting essential publication information, such as the publisher or year, making it difficult for readers to locate the source. Incorrectly formatting author names, either by inverting the order for subsequent authors in multi-author works or by failing to invert the first author's name, is also a recurring issue.

Furthermore, writers sometimes struggle with the distinction between citing an entire book versus a chapter within an edited book, leading to incomplete or improperly structured entries. For online sources, neglecting to include the URL or retrieval date, or using a broken link, renders the citation unhelpful. Finally, failing to alphabetize entries correctly or using incorrect indentation can disrupt the overall organization and readability of the bibliography page. Meticulous attention to detail and careful proofreading are essential to avoid these common errors.

Ensuring every element from the author's name to the final punctuation is precise can significantly enhance the credibility of your research. Referencing the Chicago Manual of Style directly for any ambiguities is always the most reliable approach. Mastering these examples and principles will empower you to construct accurate and professional bibliographies that meet Chicago style standards.

Q: What is the primary difference between a bibliography and a works cited page in Chicago style?

A: In the Chicago Manual of Style, the term "Bibliography" is used for the notes-bibliography system, and it includes all sources consulted, whether cited or not. The term "Works Cited" is used for the author-date system, and it lists only the sources actually cited in the text.

Q: How do I cite a source with no author in a Chicago style

bibliography?

A: If a source has no author, begin the citation with the title of the work. Alphabetize the entry by the first significant word of the title, ignoring articles like "A," "An," or "The."

Q: What is the rule for citing sources with multiple authors in Chicago style?

A: For books with two or three authors, list all authors in the bibliography, with the first author's name inverted. For books with four or more authors, list only the first author's name followed by "et al." (and others). Journal articles generally follow a similar pattern, though some may have specific rules depending on the journal's guidelines.

Q: When do I use italics versus quotation marks for titles in a Chicago style bibliography?

A: In Chicago style, titles of major works such as books, journals, magazines, newspapers, and websites are italicized. Titles of shorter works, like articles, essays, chapters, poems, and blog posts, are enclosed in quotation marks.

Q: How do I format an online journal article in Chicago style, especially if it has a DOI?

A: For online journal articles with a DOI, the format is: Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." *Title of Journal* Volume, no. Issue (Year): Page Range. DOI. The DOI is the preferred locator.

Q: What is the purpose of the retrieval date for online sources in Chicago style?

A: The retrieval date is included for online sources to indicate when the information was accessed. This is particularly important because online content can be updated or removed without notice, and the retrieval date helps readers understand the state of the source at the time of your research.

Q: How should I cite a personal interview in my Chicago style bibliography?

A: A personal interview is cited by providing the interviewee's name, followed by the designation "Personal interview," and the date the interview took place. For example: Last Name, First Name. Personal interview. Month Day, Year.

Q: What is a hanging indent, and why is it used in Chicago

style bibliographies?

A: A hanging indent is a formatting style where the first line of each bibliography entry aligns with the left margin, and all subsequent lines of that entry are indented. It is used to make the first word of each entry (usually the author's last name or the title) more prominent and to improve the readability of the list by visually separating entries.

Q: Do I need to include the city of publication for all books in Chicago style?

A: Yes, for books published before 2000, the city of publication is generally required. For books published after 2000, if the publisher has multiple locations, you typically only need to list the first city listed on the title page. However, checking the latest edition of the Chicago Manual of Style is always recommended for the most current guidelines.

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