

chicago style citation examples for theses and dissertations

chicago style citation examples for theses and dissertations, a critical aspect of academic integrity, ensures that all scholarly work acknowledges its sources properly. Navigating the intricacies of Chicago style for a thesis or dissertation can be daunting, but a clear understanding of its components is essential for avoiding plagiarism and gaining academic credibility. This comprehensive guide delves into the specific requirements for citing various types of sources within the context of advanced academic research, covering both the author-date and notes-bibliography systems. We will explore detailed examples for books, journal articles, websites, and other common materials encountered in thesis and dissertation writing, providing clear instructions to help scholars confidently format their bibliographies and in-text citations. Mastering these citation examples will streamline your writing process and ensure your work adheres to the highest academic standards.

Table of Contents

Understanding Chicago Style for Academic Papers

Notes-Bibliography System: In-Text Citations and Full Notes

Author-Date System: In-Text Citations and Reference Lists

Citing Books in Chicago Style for Theses and Dissertations

Citing Journal Articles in Chicago Style for Theses and Dissertations

Citing Websites and Online Resources in Chicago Style

Citing Other Common Sources in Chicago Style

Formatting Your Bibliography or Reference List

Understanding Chicago Style for Academic Papers

Chicago style, officially known as the Chicago Manual of Style (CMOS), is a widely adopted citation system in academia. It offers two distinct approaches: the notes-bibliography system and the author-date system. For theses and dissertations, the choice between these two systems often depends on the specific discipline or institutional guidelines. The notes-bibliography system is more prevalent in the humanities, while the author-date system is commonly used in the sciences and social sciences. Both systems require meticulous attention to detail to accurately represent the original sources.

The primary goal of any citation style, including Chicago, is to provide readers with the necessary information to locate the original sources. This involves clearly identifying the author, title, publication details, and access information where applicable. For extensive academic works like theses and dissertations, consistency in applying the chosen Chicago style is paramount. Any deviation can lead to confusion and detract from the scholarly rigor of your research.

Notes-Bibliography System: In-Text Citations and Full Notes

The notes-bibliography system utilizes numbered footnotes or endnotes to cite sources within the text. Each note corresponds to a superscript number placed after the relevant quotation, paraphrase, or statement of fact. The first time a source is cited, a full note is provided. Subsequent citations of the same source use a shortened note format.

First Reference Notes

When citing a source for the first time in a thesis or dissertation using the notes-bibliography system, the note should include comprehensive publication details. This ensures readers have all the necessary information to find the source. The structure varies slightly depending on the type of source, but the core elements remain consistent: author, title, and publication information.

For a book, the first note typically includes the author's full name, the full title of the book (italicized), publication information (city: publisher, year), and the specific page number(s) cited. For instance:

1. John Smith, *The History of Citation Practices* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2020), 45.

Subsequent Reference Notes

After the initial full note, subsequent references to the same source are abbreviated. This prevents redundancy in the notes and keeps the text cleaner. The shortened note usually includes the author's last name, a shortened version of the title (italicized if it's a book or article title), and the page number.

For example, if the previously cited book by John Smith is referenced again:

2. Smith, *History of Citation Practices*, 78.

If a source is cited consecutively, consecutive note numbers can simply refer to the preceding note, followed by the new page number.

Bibliography Entries

The bibliography, located at the end of the thesis or dissertation, provides a complete alphabetical list of all sources cited in the work. Unlike the notes, bibliography entries generally omit page numbers for entire works but include them for specific articles or chapters. The formatting in the bibliography is slightly

different from the notes, often using a hanging indent and placing the author's last name first.

For a book cited in the bibliography:

Smith, John. *The History of Citation Practices*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2020.

Author-Date System: In-Text Citations and Reference Lists

The author-date system, often favored in scientific and social science fields, integrates citations directly into the text using the author's last name and the publication year. This method is generally considered more streamlined for readers as it requires less interruption of the main text with footnotes or endnotes. The corresponding source information is then provided in a comprehensive reference list at the end of the document.

In-Text Citations

In-text citations in the author-date system are typically placed in parentheses. They include the author's last name and the year of publication. If a specific quotation is used, the page number is also included.

For a book by John Smith published in 2020, an in-text citation might look like this:

Scholars have long debated the evolution of academic referencing (Smith 2020).

If a direct quote is used, the citation would be:

Scholars have long debated the evolution of academic referencing, stating, "The foundational principles remain consistent" (Smith 2020, 45).

Reference List Entries

The reference list, appearing at the end of the thesis or dissertation, alphabetically lists all sources cited in the text. Each entry provides complete publication details, allowing readers to easily locate the original material. The format for entries in the author-date reference list is similar to that of the bibliography in the notes-bibliography system, but the parenthetical year in the in-text citation directly links to the year in the reference list entry.

For the book by John Smith, the reference list entry would be:

Smith, John. 2020. *The History of Citation Practices*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Citing Books in Chicago Style for Theses and Dissertations

Books are foundational sources in most academic disciplines, making their accurate citation in Chicago style crucial for theses and dissertations. The specific elements required will depend on whether you are using the notes-bibliography or author-date system, and whether it is a single-author book, edited volume, or a work with multiple authors.

Single-Author Books

For a single-author book, the citation includes the author's name, the full title of the book, and publication details. Using the notes-bibliography system, a full note would be:

1. Jane Doe, *The Art of Research Methodology* (New York: Academic Publishers, 2021), 112.

And in the bibliography:

Doe, Jane. *The Art of Research Methodology*. New York: Academic Publishers, 2021.

Using the author-date system, the in-text citation and reference list entry:

In-text: (Doe 2021, 112)

Reference list: Doe, Jane. 2021. *The Art of Research Methodology*. New York: Academic Publishers.

Edited Books

When citing an edited book, you typically acknowledge the editor(s) rather than an author. The structure will indicate that it is an edited work.

Notes-Bibliography (Full Note):

2. Emily White, ed., *Collected Essays on Digital Humanities* (London: Routledge, 2019), 25.

Notes-Bibliography (Bibliography):

White, Emily, ed. *Collected Essays on Digital Humanities*. London: Routledge, 2019.

Author-Date (In-text):

(White 2019, 25)

Author-Date (Reference List):

White, Emily, ed. 2019. *Collected Essays on Digital Humanities*. London: Routledge.

Books with Multiple Authors

For books with two or three authors, list all authors. For four or more, list the first author followed by "et al." (and others).

Notes-Bibliography (Full Note for two authors):

3. Robert Green and Susan Black, *Advanced Statistical Models* (Boston: MIT Press, 2018), 55.

Notes-Bibliography (Bibliography for two authors):

Green, Robert, and Susan Black. *Advanced Statistical Models*. Boston: MIT Press, 2018.

Notes-Bibliography (Full Note for four authors):

4. David Lee et al., *Introduction to Machine Learning* (Seattle: Amazon Publishing, 2022), 88.

Notes-Bibliography (Bibliography for four authors):

Lee, David, et al. *Introduction to Machine Learning*. Seattle: Amazon Publishing, 2022.

Citing Journal Articles in Chicago Style for Theses and Dissertations

Journal articles are indispensable for many theses and dissertations, as they represent current research and scholarly discourse. Accurate citation of these sources is vital for demonstrating your engagement with the literature.

Journal Articles (Print and Online)

When citing journal articles, you will typically include the author(s), article title, journal title, volume and issue numbers, publication year, and page range. For online articles, you will also include a DOI (Digital Object Identifier) or a URL.

Notes-Bibliography (Full Note for a print article):

5. Maria Garcia, "The Impact of Globalization on Local Economies," *Journal of International Business Studies* 45, no. 3 (2017): 310-325.

Notes-Bibliography (Bibliography):

Garcia, Maria. "The Impact of Globalization on Local Economies." *Journal of International Business Studies* 45, no. 3 (2017): 310-325.

Notes-Bibliography (Full Note for an online article with DOI):

6. Johnathan Chen, "New Frontiers in Renewable Energy," *Energy Policy Review* 18, no. 1 (2023): 5-18.
doi:10.1016/j.enpolrev.2023.01.001.

Notes-Bibliography (Bibliography):

Chen, Johnathan. "New Frontiers in Renewable Energy." *Energy Policy Review* 18, no. 1 (2023): 5-18.
doi:10.1016/j.enpolrev.2023.01.001.

Author-Date (In-text for a print article):

(Garcia 2017, 315)

Author-Date (Reference List for a print article):

Garcia, Maria. 2017. "The Impact of Globalization on Local Economies." *Journal of International Business Studies* 45, no. 3: 310-325.

Author-Date (In-text for an online article with DOI):

(Chen 2023, 7)

Author-Date (Reference List for an online article with DOI):

Chen, Johnathan. 2023. "New Frontiers in Renewable Energy." *Energy Policy Review* 18, no. 1: 5-18.
doi:10.1016/j.enpolrev.2023.01.001.

Citing Websites and Online Resources in Chicago Style

The internet is a vast repository of information, and citing online resources within a thesis or dissertation requires careful attention to detail to ensure reproducibility and credibility.

Websites and Web Pages

When citing a website or a specific web page, include the author (if known), the title of the page, the name of the website, the publication date (or last updated date), and the URL. For a thesis or dissertation, it's also good practice to include an access date.

Notes-Bibliography (Full Note):

7. "National Archives," National Archives and Records Administration, last modified October 26, 2023,
<https://www.archives.gov/>. Accessed November 1, 2023.

Notes-Bibliography (Bibliography):

"National Archives." National Archives and Records Administration. Last modified October 26, 2023.
<https://www.archives.gov/>. Accessed November 1, 2023.

Author-Date (In-text):

(National Archives and Records Administration, "National Archives," 2023)

Author-Date (Reference List):

National Archives and Records Administration. "National Archives." Last modified October 26, 2023.
<https://www.archives.gov/>. Accessed November 1, 2023.

Online Reports and Documents

Citing online reports or documents, such as government reports or white papers, follows a similar structure. Key elements include authoring organization, title, and access information.

Notes-Bibliography (Full Note):

8. United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *World Economic Situation and Prospects 2023* (New York: United Nations, 2023),
<https://www.un.org/development/desa/dpad/publication/world-economic-situation-and-prospects-2023/>.

Notes-Bibliography (Bibliography):

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. *World Economic Situation and Prospects 2023*. New York: United Nations, 2023.
<https://www.un.org/development/desa/dpad/publication/world-economic-situation-and-prospects-2023/>.

Citing Other Common Sources in Chicago Style

Beyond books and journal articles, theses and dissertations often draw upon a diverse range of materials. Understanding how to cite these other common sources is essential for a complete and accurate bibliography.

Dissertations and Theses

When citing other dissertations or theses, you will typically include the author, title, degree sought, institution, and date. For unpublished works, indicate this clearly.

Notes-Bibliography (Full Note):

9. Sarah Brown, "The Social Impact of Artificial Intelligence" (PhD diss., Stanford University, 2022), 75.

Notes-Bibliography (Bibliography):

Brown, Sarah. "The Social Impact of Artificial Intelligence." PhD diss., Stanford University, 2022.

Author-Date (In-text):

(Brown 2022, 75)

Author-Date (Reference List):

Brown, Sarah. 2022. "The Social Impact of Artificial Intelligence." PhD diss., Stanford University.

Conference Proceedings

Citing conference proceedings involves providing the author of the paper, the title of the paper, the title of the conference proceedings, and publication details.

Notes-Bibliography (Full Note):

10. David Lee, "Advancements in Quantum Computing," in *Proceedings of the International Conference on Future Technologies* (Palo Alto, CA: IEEE, 2021), 120-135.

Notes-Bibliography (Bibliography):

Lee, David. "Advancements in Quantum Computing." In *Proceedings of the International Conference on Future Technologies*, 120-135. Palo Alto, CA: IEEE, 2021.

Interviews

Interviews conducted as part of your research should be cited. For unpublished interviews, include the interviewee's name, the type of interview, the date, and your relationship to the interview (e.g., conducted by the author).

Notes-Bibliography (Full Note):

11. Interview with Dr. Eleanor Vance, May 15, 2023, conducted by the author.

Notes-Bibliography (Bibliography):

Vance, Eleanor. Interview by author. May 15, 2023.

Formatting Your Bibliography or Reference List

The final presentation of your citations in a bibliography or reference list is as important as the accuracy of the individual entries. Consistent formatting enhances the readability and professional appearance of your thesis or dissertation.

Alphabetical Order

Both the bibliography and the reference list must be alphabetized by the author's last name. If a source has no author, alphabetize it by the first significant word of the title (ignoring articles like "a," "an," and "the").

Hanging Indents

A common practice in Chicago style for bibliographies and reference lists is the use of hanging indents. This means the first line of each entry is flush with the left margin, and all subsequent lines of that entry are indented. This formatting helps to visually separate entries and makes them easier to scan.

Consistency is Key

Throughout your thesis or dissertation, maintain absolute consistency in your chosen Chicago style (notes-bibliography or author-date). This includes the formatting of titles, punctuation, and the order of elements in each citation. Your institution or department may have specific preferences or requirements, so always consult their guidelines.

Properly formatted Chicago style citations for theses and dissertations are not just a matter of following rules; they are a testament to your scholarly integrity and your respect for the work of others. By meticulously applying these examples and principles, you will produce a thesis or dissertation that is both credible and impeccably presented.

FAQ

Q: What is the main difference between the notes-bibliography and

author-date systems in Chicago style for theses and dissertations?

A: The primary difference lies in how citations are presented within the text. The notes-bibliography system uses numbered footnotes or endnotes to cite sources, while the author-date system uses parenthetical in-text citations (e.g., Smith 2020). Consequently, the notes-bibliography system requires a bibliography at the end, whereas the author-date system requires a reference list.

Q: How do I cite a chapter in an edited book in Chicago style for my thesis?

A: To cite a chapter in an edited book using the notes-bibliography system, your note would typically include the chapter author's name, the chapter title (in quotation marks), followed by "in" and the book title (italicized), editor(s), publication information, and page numbers for the chapter. In the bibliography, the format is similar, with the chapter author's last name first. For the author-date system, the in-text citation includes the chapter author's last name and year, with the reference list entry mirroring the bibliography format but with the year immediately after the author's name.

Q: What is the correct way to cite a thesis or dissertation I found online for my own thesis?

A: For a thesis or dissertation found online using the notes-bibliography system, your note and bibliography entry should include the author, title, degree sought, institution, year of degree, and the URL or database name and accession number. For the author-date system, the reference list entry would include the author, year, title, degree, institution, and URL/database information.

Q: Should I include DOIs or URLs for online journal articles in my Chicago style bibliography for my dissertation?

A: Yes, it is highly recommended to include the DOI (Digital Object Identifier) for online journal articles if available. If a DOI is not available, then provide the URL. This helps readers locate the exact version of the article you accessed. Both the notes-bibliography and author-date systems require this information for online sources.

Q: How do I cite a source that has no author or publication date?

A: If a source has no author, use the title of the work in place of the author's name in both in-text citations and the bibliography/reference list. For the notes-bibliography system, if there's no date, use "n.d." (no date). For the author-date system, use "n.d." in place of the year in both the in-text citation and the reference list entry.

Q: Is there a specific requirement for the page numbering in Chicago style citations for theses and dissertations?

A: Yes, when you directly quote or paraphrase specific information from a source, you must include the page number(s) in your citation. In the notes-bibliography system, this is done in the footnote or endnote. In the author-date system, the page number is included in the parenthetical in-text citation after the year. For entire works, page numbers are generally not included in the bibliography or reference list entries.

[Chicago Style Citation Examples For Theses And Dissertations](#)

Chicago Style Citation Examples For Theses And Dissertations

Related Articles

- [chicago style endnotes format](#)
- [chicago style endnote bibliography example](#)
- [chicago style bibliography footnotes](#)

[Back to Home](#)