

# chicago style citation examples video citation

chicago style citation examples video citation are crucial for academic integrity and properly crediting the sources of your research. Whether you are citing a documentary, a YouTube tutorial, an educational TED Talk, or a historical film clip, understanding the nuances of Chicago style for audiovisual materials is essential. This comprehensive guide will delve into the specific requirements for citing various types of video content, covering both the author-date and notes-bibliography systems. We will explore the essential components of a video citation, including identifying creators, titles, publication details, and access information, and provide clear examples for each scenario. Mastering these citation methods ensures your work is accurate, credible, and adheres to academic standards.

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## Understanding Chicago Style for Video Citations

Chicago style, a widely recognized citation method, offers two primary systems for academic writing: the notes-bibliography system and the author-date system. Both systems require meticulous attention to detail when it comes to citing video sources, as the format for these audiovisual materials differs from traditional print sources. The fundamental goal is to provide readers with enough information to locate and verify the original video content. This involves identifying the creator, the specific title of the video, the entity responsible for its publication or distribution, and the means by which it was accessed, whether through a physical medium or an online platform.

When approaching Chicago style citation examples video citation, it's important to recognize that while the core principles remain consistent, specific elements might vary depending on the nature of the video. For instance, a professionally produced documentary will have different citation requirements than a user-generated video uploaded to a platform like YouTube. Understanding these distinctions is key to generating accurate and effective citations that uphold scholarly standards and prevent plagiarism.

## Key Components of a Chicago Style Video Citation

Regardless of whether you are using the notes-bibliography or author-date system in Chicago style, several core pieces of information are generally required for a video citation. These elements help to uniquely identify the video and guide your reader to its origin. Accurately capturing these details is the first step towards constructing a correct citation. Think of these as the essential ingredients for a complete reference entry.

## **Creator or Author**

This typically refers to the individual or organization primarily responsible for the video's creation. For films, this might be the director. For documentaries, it could be the director or producer. For educational videos, it may be the lecturer or the institution. If no specific individual is credited, the organization or production company often serves as the authorial entity. Identifying the primary creator is paramount for attribution.

## **Title of the Video**

This is the specific name of the video you are referencing. It should be presented accurately as it appears on the source material. For full-length films or documentaries, the title is typically italicized. Shorter videos, such as individual YouTube clips or TED Talks, are usually enclosed in quotation marks. Ensuring the title is correct and formatted appropriately is crucial for clarity.

## **Publication or Distribution Information**

This component details who made the video available to the public and when. For published films and documentaries, this might include the production company, the distributor, and the year of release. For online videos, it often includes the name of the website or platform (e.g., YouTube, Vimeo, Netflix) and the date of upload or availability. This information helps readers understand the context and origin of the video.

## **Access Information (URL or Other)**

This is perhaps the most critical element for online video citations. It provides the direct web address (URL) where the video can be accessed by your reader. For physical media, you would note the format (e.g., DVD, Blu-ray). When providing a URL, it is standard practice in Chicago style to include the date you accessed the material, as online content can change or be removed.

# **Chicago Style: Notes-Bibliography System for Video Citations**

The notes-bibliography system in Chicago style uses footnotes or endnotes to cite sources within the text and a bibliography at the end of the paper to list all cited sources. This

system offers a more descriptive approach for each citation.

## Footnote/Endnote for a Film

When citing a feature film in a note, you would typically include the director's name, the title (italicized), the country and studio, and the year of release, followed by a citation of where you viewed it. For example, a note might look like this:

- *The Social Network*, directed by David Fincher (Culver City, CA: Columbia Pictures, 2010), viewed March 15, 2023.

## Bibliography Entry for a Film

The corresponding bibliography entry for the same film condenses this information, usually starting with the title:

- *The Social Network*. Directed by David Fincher. Culver City, CA: Columbia Pictures, 2010.

## Footnote/Endnote for an Online Video

For an online video, like a TED Talk or a YouTube video, the note would include the speaker or creator, the title (in quotation marks), the website or platform name, the upload date, and the access date with the URL.

- Jonathan Haidt, "Can You Build Early?—The Science of Building Trust," TED Talk, October 2012, video, 18:53, [https://www.ted.com/talks/jonathan\\_haidt\\_can\\_you\\_build\\_early\\_the\\_science\\_of\\_building\\_trust](https://www.ted.com/talks/jonathan_haidt_can_you_build_early_the_science_of_building_trust). Accessed March 15, 2023.

## Bibliography Entry for an Online Video

The bibliography entry for the online video would be similar but often omits the access date and URL if the source is readily discoverable through the title and platform:

- Haidt, Jonathan. "Can You Build Early?—The Science of Building Trust." TED Talk, October 2012. [https://www.ted.com/talks/jonathan\\_haidt\\_can\\_you\\_build\\_early\\_the\\_science\\_of\\_building\\_trust](https://www.ted.com/talks/jonathan_haidt_can_you_build_early_the_science_of_building_trust).

# Chicago Style: Author-Date System for Video Citations

The author-date system uses in-text parenthetical citations to reference sources, which then correspond to a reference list at the end of the paper. This system is often preferred in the sciences and social sciences.

## In-Text Citation for a Film

In the author-date system, an in-text citation for a film would include the director's last name and the year of release in parentheses. If you are quoting or referencing a specific moment, you might include a timestamp.

(Fincher 2010)

Or, to refer to a specific scene:

(Fincher 2010, 00:15:30-00:17:00)

## Reference List Entry for a Film

The reference list entry would provide more detail about the film:

- Fincher, David, director. 2010. *The Social Network*. Culver City, CA: Columbia Pictures.

## In-Text Citation for an Online Video

For an online video, the in-text citation would typically include the creator's last name and the year of upload or publication.

(Haidt 2012)

## Reference List Entry for an Online Video

The reference list entry would provide the necessary details for the reader to locate the video:

- Haidt, Jonathan. 2012. "Can You Build Early?—The Science of Building Trust." TED Talk, October. Video.  
[https://www.ted.com/talks/jonathan\\_haidt\\_can\\_you\\_build\\_early\\_the\\_science\\_of\\_building\\_trust](https://www.ted.com/talks/jonathan_haidt_can_you_build_early_the_science_of_building_trust).

# Citing Different Types of Video Content

Chicago style provides flexibility for citing a range of video formats. The key is to adapt the core components to the specific nature of the content.

## Documentaries

Documentaries, whether viewed on a streaming service, DVD, or in a theater, are cited similarly to films. The director is usually the primary creator. If citing from a streaming service, you would include the service name and the date of access.

- Notes-Bibliography: *An Inconvenient Truth*. Directed by Davis Guggenheim. Beverly Hills, CA: Paramount, 2006.
- Author-Date: Guggenheim, Davis, director. 2006. *An Inconvenient Truth*. Beverly Hills, CA: Paramount.

For a documentary viewed on Netflix:

- Notes-Bibliography: *My Octopus Teacher*. Directed by Pippa Ehrlich and James Reed. Netflix, 2020.
- Author-Date: Ehrlich, Pippa, and James Reed, directors. 2020. *My Octopus Teacher*. Netflix.

## YouTube Videos and Other Online Clips

When citing content from platforms like YouTube, the uploader is often considered the creator. Be specific about the title of the clip, and always include the platform and URL.

- Notes-Bibliography: Vsauce. "Is Anything Real?" YouTube, July 20, 2019. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G2oEwB1fP28>. Accessed March 15, 2023.
- Author-Date: Vsauce. 2019. "Is Anything Real?" YouTube, July 20. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G2oEwB1fP28>.

## Educational Videos and Lectures

For lectures or educational videos found online, attribute the speaker or instructor. If it's part of a course or series, include that information.

- Notes-Bibliography: Kahn Academy. "Photosynthesis." YouTube, March 14, 2015.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D1YWHcM8t\\_Q](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D1YWHcM8t_Q). Accessed March 15, 2023.

- Author-Date: Kahn Academy. 2015. "Photosynthesis." YouTube, March 14. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D1YWHcM8t\\_Q](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D1YWHcM8t_Q).

## Television Series Episodes

When citing an episode from a television series, include the episode title, series title, network, original air date, and access information if applicable.

- Notes-Bibliography: "The One Where Ross Finds Out." Directed by Michael Lembeck. Written by Alexa Junge. *Friends*, season 2, episode 7. NBC, November 14, 1995.
- Author-Date: Lembeck, Michael, director. 1995. "The One Where Ross Finds Out." Written by Alexa Junge. In *Friends*, season 2, episode 7. NBC, November 14.

## Webinars and Online Presentations

Similar to other online video content, identify the presenter or organization, the title of the webinar, the date, and the platform or URL.

- Notes-Bibliography: Smith, Jane. "Advanced SEO Techniques." Webinar presented by SEMrush, April 5, 2022. <https://www.semrush.com/webinars/advanced-seo-techniques/>. Accessed March 15, 2023.
- Author-Date: Smith, Jane. 2022. "Advanced SEO Techniques." Webinar presented by SEMrush, April 5. <https://www.semrush.com/webinars/advanced-seo-techniques/>.

Ensuring accuracy in Chicago style citation examples video citation for all these formats solidifies your research's credibility. The consistent application of these guidelines will benefit both you and your readers by providing clear and verifiable access to your sources.

## FAQ

### Q: What is the difference between citing a film and a YouTube video in Chicago style?

A: The primary difference lies in the attribution of the creator and the publication details. For films, you typically cite the director and production company, while for YouTube

videos, you cite the uploader and the platform name. Both require the title and access information (URL and access date for online videos).

## **Q: Do I need to italicize the title of every video in Chicago style?**

A: Generally, full-length films, documentaries, and television series titles are italicized. Shorter video content, such as individual YouTube clips, TED Talks, or specific lecture videos, are typically enclosed in quotation marks.

## **Q: How do I cite a video that I watched on a streaming service like Netflix or Hulu?**

A: You would cite it similarly to a film or documentary, noting the title (italicized), directors/creators, the streaming service name, and the year of release on that platform. For the notes-bibliography system, you might also include the year of access. For the author-date system, the year of release is primary.

## **Q: What if a video doesn't have a clear director or author listed?**

A: If no specific individual is credited, use the name of the organization or production company responsible for creating or uploading the video as the author. For example, if citing a video from NASA, NASA would be the author.

## **Q: Should I include the duration of the video in my Chicago style citation?**

A: While not always mandatory for every type of video, including the duration can be helpful for very specific references, especially in the notes-bibliography system, to pinpoint exact sections. However, it is not a standard requirement for all video citations.

## **Q: When using Chicago style author-date, do I need to include timestamps for video citations?**

A: Timestamps are typically included in Chicago style author-date citations when you are referring to a very specific part of the video, such as a particular quote or scene, to help your reader locate that exact moment more easily.

## **Q: How do I cite a video that has multiple creators?**

A: For both the notes-bibliography and author-date systems, list all creators up to a certain number (usually three or four) and then use "et al." for any subsequent creators. The order of names matters, typically following how they are credited on the source.

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