

chicago style journal article citation example

The Chicago Manual of Style (CMOS) provides a comprehensive framework for academic writing, and understanding its nuances is crucial for scholars across disciplines. A key element of adhering to CMOS is the correct formatting of citations, particularly for journal articles. This article delves into the intricacies of a chicago style journal article citation example, exploring both the notes-bibliography system and the author-date system. We will dissect the essential components of a journal article citation, provide detailed examples for various scenarios, and explain the differences between in-text citations and the corresponding bibliography entries. By mastering these citation practices, you can ensure the credibility and academic rigor of your research.

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Understanding Chicago Style Citation Systems

The Chicago Manual of Style offers two primary citation systems: the notes-bibliography system and the author-date system. While both aim for clarity and accuracy, they differ in their application within the text and in the final list of sources. The notes-bibliography system, often favored in the humanities and history, uses footnotes or endnotes for in-text citations and a bibliography at the end of the work. The author-date system, more common in the social sciences and natural sciences, uses parenthetical author-date citations within the text and a reference list at the end.

Choosing the appropriate system typically depends on the conventions of your academic field or the specific requirements of your instructor or publisher. Regardless of the chosen system, the core information required for a journal article citation remains largely consistent, focusing on identifying the author, title, journal, publication details, and location information. Understanding these foundational elements is paramount to constructing accurate Chicago style journal article citations.

The Notes-Bibliography System: In-Text Notes

In the notes-bibliography system, each citation is represented by a superscript Arabic numeral placed at the end of the sentence or clause that contains the borrowed information. This numeral corresponds to a

footnote at the bottom of the page or an endnote at the end of the chapter or document. The first time a source is cited, the note provides a full citation. Subsequent citations for the same source are typically shortened.

For a journal article, the initial footnote would include the author's first and last name, the title of the article in quotation marks, the title of the journal in italics, followed by the volume number, issue number (if applicable), publication date, and the page number(s) being referenced. This detailed format ensures readers can easily locate the original source of the information. For example, a first note might look like this: ¹. "The Impact of Digitalization on Scholarly Communication," by Jane Doe, *Journal of Academic Research*, vol. 45, no. 2 (Spring 2023): 112.

Subsequent Notes

When citing the same journal article multiple times, subsequent notes can be abbreviated. The most common method is to use the author's last name, a shortened version of the article title, and the page number. This streamlines the in-text citation process while still providing sufficient information for the reader to identify the source in the bibliography. For instance, a subsequent note for the same article would appear as: ². Doe, "Digitalization," 115. This abbreviation is clear and efficient.

The Notes-Bibliography System: Bibliography Entries

The bibliography, appearing at the end of your paper, is an alphabetical list of all sources cited in the text. Unlike the notes, which include page numbers being referenced, the bibliography entry for a journal article typically lists the full range of pages for the article. The formatting in the bibliography mirrors the first footnote but with a key difference: the author's last name comes first, followed by their first name. This allows for alphabetical sorting.

A typical bibliography entry for a journal article in the notes-bibliography system follows this structure: Author Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." Title of Journal Volume, no. Issue (Publication Date): Page range. For example: Doe, Jane. "The Impact of Digitalization on Scholarly Communication." *Journal of Academic Research* 45, no. 2 (Spring 2023): 110–130. This complete entry provides all necessary details for retrieval.

Variations in Bibliography Entries

While the general format remains consistent, minor variations can occur based on specific publication details. If a journal article has multiple authors, their names are listed in the order they appear on the publication. For articles published online, especially those without print equivalents, you might include a DOI (Digital Object Identifier) or a URL, if available and if it enhances retrievability. The key is to provide enough information for a reader to find the exact source.

The Author-Date System: In-Text Citations

The author-date system offers a more concise in-text citation method. Instead of footnotes or endnotes, parenthetical citations are placed directly within the text, usually at the end of a sentence or clause, enclosed in parentheses. These citations typically include the author's last name and the year of publication, and often the specific page number(s) if quoting directly or referring to specific information. This system prioritizes brevity within the prose itself.

For a journal article, an in-text citation would look like this: (Doe 2023, 112). If you mention the author's name in your sentence, you only need to include the year and page number in parentheses: As Doe (2023, 112) argues, the impact of digitalization... This approach integrates smoothly into the narrative flow, allowing readers to quickly identify the source and year of publication.

Parenthetical Citation Rules

When citing multiple works by the same author in the same year, Chicago style recommends adding lowercase letters (a, b, c) after the year to distinguish them, both in the in-text citation and in the reference list. For example: (Smith 2022a, 45) and (Smith 2022b, 78). This ensures clarity when multiple publications from the same author and year are used, preventing confusion.

The Author-Date System: Reference List Entries

The reference list, which replaces the bibliography in the author-date system, contains an alphabetical list of all sources cited in the text. Each entry in the reference list corresponds to an in-text citation and provides the complete publication information. The format for journal articles in the author-date system is similar to the bibliography in the notes-bibliography system but with a slight difference in punctuation and order for the publication date.

A standard reference list entry for a journal article in Chicago's author-date system includes: Author Last Name, First Name. Year. "Title of Article." Title of Journal Volume (Issue): Page range. DOI or URL. For example: Doe, Jane. 2023. "The Impact of Digitalization on Scholarly Communication." *Journal of Academic Research* 45 (2): 110–130. <https://doi.org/10.1086/12345678>. The inclusion of the year immediately after the author's name is a defining characteristic of this system.

Online Journal Article Formatting

For online journal articles, the inclusion of a DOI is strongly preferred over a URL because DOIs are persistent identifiers that are less likely to break over time. If a DOI is not available, then a URL should be provided, along with the date the article was accessed, if it is likely to change or be removed. This ensures the reader can still access the digital material.

Common Elements in Chicago Style Journal Article Citations

Regardless of the citation system employed, several core pieces of information are essential for accurately citing a journal article in Chicago style. These elements provide the necessary details for readers to locate and verify your sources. Understanding each component ensures a comprehensive and credible citation.

The fundamental elements include:

- **Author(s):** The full name(s) of the author(s) as they appear on the article.
- **Article Title:** The precise title of the journal article, typically enclosed in quotation marks.
- **Journal Title:** The full title of the journal in which the article was published, usually italicized.
- **Volume Number:** The volume number of the journal.
- **Issue Number:** The issue number within the volume (if applicable).
- **Publication Date:** The year, and sometimes the month or season, of publication.
- **Page Numbers:** The specific page(s) referenced or the full page range of the article.
- **DOI or URL:** A persistent identifier for online articles.

Author Name Formatting

The formatting of author names differs between the notes-bibliography system and the author-date system. In notes, the author's first name precedes their last name. In the bibliography and reference list, the author's last name is listed first, followed by their first name, to facilitate alphabetical ordering. For articles with multiple authors, the first author's name is reversed, while subsequent authors' names are listed in their normal order.

Formatting Specific Journal Article Details

Beyond the basic elements, specific details within a journal article citation require precise formatting according to Chicago style. Adhering to these conventions enhances the clarity and professionalism of your academic work. These details often include the treatment of punctuation, capitalization, and the inclusion of supplementary information.

Article and Journal Titles

The title of the journal article itself is always enclosed in quotation marks. For example: "The Evolution of Artificial Intelligence." The name of the journal in which the article appears is italicized. For example: *Artificial Intelligence Quarterly*. This clear distinction between article and journal titles is a hallmark of Chicago style and aids in readability.

Volume, Issue, and Page Numbers

When citing a journal article, the volume number is typically preceded by "vol." and the issue number by "no." For instance, "vol. 10, no. 3." However, many journals now use a streamlined format, especially in the author-date system, where the volume number is often followed directly by the issue number in parentheses, e.g., 10(3). The page numbers for the article are then listed, often preceded by a colon. For example: 10(3): 255–270. Always check the specific formatting conventions of the journal you are citing.

Online Resources and DOIs

For journal articles accessed online, the inclusion of a DOI (Digital Object Identifier) is paramount. A DOI is a unique string of characters that identifies a digital object and provides a persistent link to its location online. When a DOI is available, it should be included in the citation, usually as a URL starting with "https://doi.org/". If no DOI is available, a stable URL should be provided. This ensures that readers can easily retrieve the article, even if the original webpage is moved or reorganized.

Frequently Asked Questions About Chicago Style Journal Article Citation Example

Q: What is the primary difference between the notes-bibliography system and the author-date system in Chicago style for journal articles?

A: The primary difference lies in how citations are presented within the text. The notes-bibliography system uses footnotes or endnotes, while the author-date system uses parenthetical citations in the text. The final list of sources also differs in format and nomenclature (bibliography vs. reference list).

Q: How do I cite a journal article with more than one author in Chicago style?

A: In the notes-bibliography system, for the first note, list all authors as they appear on the article. In

subsequent notes, you can use the first author's name followed by "et al." In the bibliography, list all authors. For the author-date system, list all authors in both the in-text citation (if space permits, though typically only the first author and "et al." are used for three or more authors in longer works) and the reference list, following the same name reversal rules as for a single author.

Q: When should I include a DOI or URL for a Chicago style journal article citation?

A: You should always include a DOI if one is available for a journal article, especially for online articles. If a DOI is not available, provide a stable URL. This is crucial for allowing readers to access the original source electronically.

Q: How do I format the title of a journal article in a Chicago style citation?

A: The title of the journal article itself is always enclosed in quotation marks. The title of the journal in which it appears is italicized. For example: "The Impact of Technology" in *Journal of Innovation*.

Q: What information is essential for a basic Chicago style journal article citation?

A: Essential information includes the author's name, the article title, the journal title, the volume and issue numbers, the publication date, and the page numbers. For online articles, a DOI or URL is also critical.

Q: How do I cite a journal article accessed online that doesn't have a DOI?

A: If an online journal article does not have a DOI, you should provide the stable URL. Additionally, if the article might be removed or changed, it is good practice to include the date you accessed the article.

Q: Can I use "ibid." in Chicago style citations?

A: The use of "ibid." (meaning "in the same place") is generally discouraged in modern Chicago style, particularly in scholarly works. It is preferable to use shortened notes for repeated citations of the same source.

Q: How do I handle a journal article with no page numbers?

A: If a journal article lacks traditional page numbers (e.g., some online-only publications), you would omit the page number from your citation. Instead, you might refer to section numbers or other locators if

provided by the publication.

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