

# chicago style sociology paper reference examples

## Mastering Chicago Style Sociology Paper Reference Examples: A Comprehensive Guide

**chicago style sociology paper reference examples** are crucial for academic integrity and demonstrating a thorough understanding of sociological research. Proper citation not only avoids plagiarism but also lends credibility to your arguments by showing your engagement with existing scholarship. This comprehensive guide will delve into the intricacies of the Chicago Manual of Style (CMS) as it applies to sociology papers, covering both the author-date and notes-bibliography systems. We will explore common source types, provide clear examples of in-text citations and corresponding bibliography entries, and offer tips for ensuring accuracy and consistency in your academic writing. Understanding these reference examples is fundamental for any sociology student aiming to produce polished, well-supported research.

### Table of Contents

Understanding Chicago Style: Author-Date vs. Notes-Bibliography

Core Principles of Chicago Style Referencing in Sociology

Common Source Types and Their Chicago Style Examples

Books

Journal Articles

Websites and Online Resources

Other Scholarly Materials

In-Text Citation Examples (Author-Date System)

Bibliography Entry Examples (Author-Date System)

In-Text Citation Examples (Notes-Bibliography System)

Footnote and Endnote Examples (Notes-Bibliography System)

Bibliography Entry Examples (Notes-Bibliography System)

Best Practices for Sociology Paper References

Frequently Asked Questions

## Understanding Chicago Style: Author-Date vs. Notes-Bibliography

The Chicago Manual of Style (CMS) offers two distinct citation systems: the author-date system and the notes-bibliography system. Sociology departments may prefer one over the other, so it is imperative to confirm the specific requirements of your instructor or institution. The author-date system is often favored in scientific and social science disciplines for its directness in linking text to sources. Conversely, the notes-bibliography system, with its footnotes or endnotes, is frequently seen in humanities, though some social science fields still adopt it. Both systems require a corresponding reference list at the end of the paper,

either a bibliography or a reference list, detailing all cited works.

Choosing the correct system is the first step toward accurate referencing. While the fundamental information required for each citation is similar – author, title, publication details – the formatting and placement vary significantly between the two. This guide will provide examples for both systems to ensure you are prepared regardless of the preferred method.

## Core Principles of Chicago Style Referencing in Sociology

Regardless of the chosen system, several core principles underpin Chicago style referencing in sociology. Accuracy is paramount; every detail in your citation must precisely match the source. Consistency is equally vital; once you choose a format for a particular source type, adhere to it throughout your paper. Clarity ensures that readers can easily locate the original source of your information. Finally, completeness is essential, providing all necessary information for retrieval.

The goal of these principles is to create a transparent and verifiable academic record for your research. Sociology relies on building upon existing knowledge, and clear citations facilitate this cumulative process by allowing readers to trace your intellectual lineage and verify your interpretations.

## Common Source Types and Their Chicago Style Examples

Sociological research draws from a diverse range of sources. Understanding how to format each type is crucial for a cohesive and professional paper. Below are examples for some of the most frequently encountered source materials.

### Books

Books form a foundational element of sociological research, offering in-depth analyses and theoretical frameworks. When citing a book, include the author's full name, the title of the book (italicized), the place of publication, the publisher, and the year of publication. For edited volumes, the editor's name is used instead of the author's, often with an indication of editorship.

Here are examples for both citation systems:

## Books with a Single Author

### Author-Date System:

- (Author Last Name Year)
- (Author Last Name Year, page number)

### Notes-Bibliography System:

- Author First Name Last Name. *Book Title*. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year.
- Footnote/Endnote: Author First Name Last Name, *Book Title* (Place of Publication: Publisher, Year), page number.

## Edited Books

### Author-Date System:

- (Editor Last Name, ed., Year)

### Notes-Bibliography System:

- Editor First Name Last Name, ed. *Book Title*. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year.
- Footnote/Endnote: Editor First Name Last Name, ed., *Book Title* (Place of Publication: Publisher, Year), page number.

## Journal Articles

Journal articles are indispensable for accessing current sociological research and empirical studies. When citing a journal article, you will need the author(s), the article title, the journal title (italicized), the volume and issue numbers, the year of publication, and the page numbers or DOI (Digital Object Identifier).

The DOI is increasingly important for online articles and is preferred when available.

## **Journal Articles with DOI**

### **Author-Date System:**

- (Author Last Name Year, page number)

### **Notes-Bibliography System:**

- Author First Name Last Name. "Article Title." *Journal Title* Volume, no. Issue (Year): page numbers. DOI.
- Footnote/Endnote: Author First Name Last Name, "Article Title," *Journal Title* Volume, no. Issue (Year): page numbers, DOI.

## **Journal Articles without DOI (Print or Online without DOI)**

### **Author-Date System:**

- (Author Last Name Year, page number)

### **Notes-Bibliography System:**

- Author First Name Last Name. "Article Title." *Journal Title* Volume, no. Issue (Year): page numbers.
- Footnote/Endnote: Author First Name Last Name, "Article Title," *Journal Title* Volume, no. Issue (Year): page numbers.

## **Websites and Online Resources**

The internet provides a vast repository of sociological data and commentary. Citing websites requires

attention to detail to ensure readers can access the specific content. Include the author or organization responsible for the content, the title of the specific page or article, the website name, the publication or last updated date, and the URL. If a publication date is not available, use "n.d." for no date. For online sources, providing an access date is optional but can be helpful if the content is subject to change.

### **Websites with a Specific Author/Organization and Date**

#### **Author-Date System:**

- (Author/Organization Last Name Year)

#### **Notes-Bibliography System:**

- Author/Organization First Name Last Name (or Organization Name). "Page Title." Website Name. Publication Date. URL.
- Footnote/Endnote: Author/Organization First Name Last Name (or Organization Name), "Page Title," Website Name, Publication Date, URL.

### **Websites without a Specific Date**

#### **Author-Date System:**

- (Author/Organization Last Name n.d.)

#### **Notes-Bibliography System:**

- Author/Organization First Name Last Name (or Organization Name). "Page Title." Website Name. n.d. URL.
- Footnote/Endnote: Author/Organization First Name Last Name (or Organization Name), "Page Title," Website Name, n.d., URL.

## Other Scholarly Materials

Sociology papers may also incorporate a variety of other scholarly materials, such as book chapters, conference proceedings, dissertations, and government documents. Each has specific formatting requirements within Chicago style.

### Book Chapters

#### Author-Date System:

- (Chapter Author Last Name Year, page number)

#### Notes-Bibliography System:

- Chapter Author First Name Last Name. "Chapter Title." In *Book Title*, edited by Editor First Name Last Name, page numbers. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year.
- Footnote/Endnote: Chapter Author First Name Last Name, "Chapter Title," in *Book Title*, ed. Editor First Name Last Name, page numbers (Place of Publication: Publisher, Year).

### Dissertations

#### Author-Date System:

- (Author Last Name Year)

#### Notes-Bibliography System:

- Author First Name Last Name. "Dissertation Title." PhD diss., University Name, Year.
- Footnote/Endnote: Author First Name Last Name, "Dissertation Title" (PhD diss., University Name, Year).

# In-Text Citation Examples (Author-Date System)

The author-date system embeds citations directly within the text of your paper, typically at the end of a sentence or clause where the information is introduced. This allows readers to immediately identify the source of a particular idea or piece of data.

Here are some common scenarios and their corresponding citations:

- A direct quote: "Social movements often emerge in response to perceived societal injustices" (Smith 2019, 45).
- Paraphrasing an idea: This societal discontent can be a catalyst for collective action (Johnson 2021).
- Citing two authors: Research indicates that the intersection of class and race significantly impacts educational outcomes (Williams and Brown 2020).
- Citing three or more authors: For subsequent citations of the same work with three or more authors, use the first author's last name followed by "et al." (Davis et al. 2018). The first citation of a work with three or more authors requires listing all authors.
- Citing a work with no author: When a work lacks an author, use a shortened version of the title in place of the author's last name (*The State of Urban Poverty* 2022, 10).
- Citing an organization as author: The report highlighted a growing disparity in healthcare access (National Sociological Association 2023).

# Bibliography Entry Examples (Author-Date System)

The bibliography in the author-date system provides a complete list of all sources cited in your paper. It is alphabetized by the author's last name (or by the title if no author is listed). Each entry should contain all the necessary bibliographic details for the source.

- **Book:** Becker, Howard S. 2009. *Outsiders: Studies in the Sociology of Deviance*. New York: Free Press.
- **Journal Article:** Bourdieu, Pierre. 1986. "The Forms of Capital." In *Handbook of Theory and Research*

*for the Sociology of Education*, edited by John G. Richardson, 241–58. New York: Greenwood Press.

- **Website:** Pew Research Center. 2024. "Social Media Fact Sheet." Last modified March 5, 2024.  
<https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/fact-sheet/social-media/>.
- **Book Chapter:** Collins, Patricia Hill. 2000. "Defining Black Feminist Thought." In *Feminist Theory: A Reader*, edited by Robyn R. Aslesen, 69–78. New York: New York University Press.

## In-Text Citation Examples (Notes-Bibliography System)

The notes-bibliography system uses footnotes or endnotes to cite sources. A superscript number is placed in the text immediately after the relevant quotation or paraphrased information. This number corresponds to a note at the bottom of the page (footnote) or at the end of the paper (endnote) containing the citation details.

The first time a source is cited, the note provides full bibliographic details. Subsequent citations of the same source use a shortened form.

## Footnote and Endnote Examples (Notes-Bibliography System)

Footnotes and endnotes offer a more detailed citation within the text itself, providing immediate context for the reader without disrupting the flow as much as a bibliography entry might. For sociology papers, clarity and conciseness in these notes are key.

- **First citation of a book:** 1. Anthony Giddens, *The Consequences of Modernity* (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 1990), 78.
- **Subsequent citation of the same book:** 2. Giddens, *Consequences of Modernity*, 123.
- **First citation of a journal article:** 3. Manuel Castells, "The Rise of the Network Society," *American Sociological Review* 64, no. 1 (1999): 15.
- **Subsequent citation of the same journal article:** 4. Castells, "Rise of the Network Society," 20.
- **Website:** 5. "Understanding the Digital Divide," National Telecommunications and Information Administration, accessed March 10, 2024,  
<https://www.ntia.gov/report/2023/understanding-digital-divide>.

- **Book Chapter:** 6. Robert Putnam, "Bowling Alone: America's Declining Social Capital," in *Culture and Politics: The Culture of Politics*, ed. Marcella Althaus-Reid, 2000, 132.

## Bibliography Entry Examples (Notes-Bibliography System)

The bibliography at the end of a paper using the notes-bibliography system is also alphabetized by author's last name. However, the formatting differs slightly from the author-date bibliography. Author names are listed with the last name first, followed by the first name. The year of publication appears at the end of the entry.

- **Book:** Durkheim, Émile. *The Rules of Sociological Method*. Translated by Sarah A. Solovay and John H. Mueller. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1982.
- **Journal Article:** Simmel, Georg. "The Metropolis and Mental Life." *The Sociological Review* 1, no. 1 (1903): 2–11.
- **Website:** World Health Organization. "Mental Health: Strengthening Our Response." Last modified October 10, 2022.  
<https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/mental-health-strengthening-our-response>.
- **Book Chapter:** Goffman, Erving. "The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life." In *The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life*, 1–14. Garden City, NY: Anchor Books, 1959.

## Best Practices for Sociology Paper References

To ensure your Chicago style sociology paper references are impeccable, adopt a systematic approach. Always consult the latest edition of *The Chicago Manual of Style* or specific departmental guidelines. Create a master list of all your sources as you research, including full bibliographic information. Double-check every citation for accuracy in names, titles, dates, and page numbers. Pay close attention to punctuation, capitalization, and italicization. If citing a digital source, ensure the URL is correct and the page is accessible.

Utilize citation management software if it aids your workflow, but always review its output critically. When in doubt, it is better to over-cite than to under-cite. A well-organized and accurately formatted reference list is a hallmark of rigorous sociological scholarship.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Q: What is the primary difference between the author-date and notes-bibliography systems in Chicago style for sociology papers?**

A: The author-date system uses parenthetical in-text citations (Author Year) and a reference list, while the notes-bibliography system uses numbered footnotes or endnotes for in-text citations and a bibliography.

### **Q: When should I use the author-date system versus the notes-bibliography system in a sociology paper?**

A: This is typically dictated by your instructor or department. Author-date is more common in empirical social sciences, while notes-bibliography is more prevalent in humanities. Always confirm the required style.

### **Q: How do I cite a book with multiple authors in Chicago style for a sociology paper?**

A: In the author-date system, list all authors' last names connected by "and" in the first in-text citation. In the notes-bibliography system, list all authors in the bibliography. For subsequent in-text citations with three or more authors, use the first author's last name followed by "et al."

### **Q: What is a DOI, and why is it important for citing journal articles in Chicago style?**

A: A DOI (Digital Object Identifier) is a unique alphanumeric string assigned to identify a piece of intellectual property, most commonly online articles. It is crucial because it provides a persistent link to the article, ensuring readers can locate it even if the website's structure changes.

### **Q: How do I cite a website that has no clear publication date in Chicago style sociology papers?**

A: For Chicago style, you would use "n.d." (for no date) in place of the publication date in both in-text citations and bibliography entries.

## **Q: Should I include an access date for online sources in my Chicago style sociology paper references?**

A: Including an access date for online sources is optional in Chicago style but recommended, especially if the content is subject to change or if no publication date is available. It helps readers understand when you viewed the material.

## **Q: What is the correct format for a book chapter citation in Chicago style for sociology?**

A: For the author-date system bibliography, it would be: Chapter Author Last Name, First Name. "Chapter Title." In *Book Title*, edited by Editor First Name Last Name, page numbers. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year. For notes, the format is similar but the order might vary slightly.

## **Q: How do I cite a dissertation or thesis in Chicago style for a sociology paper?**

A: In the author-date system bibliography: Author Last Name, First Name. Year. "Dissertation Title." PhD diss. (or MA thesis), University Name. For notes-bibliography: Author First Name Last Name. "Dissertation Title." PhD diss. (or MA thesis), University Name, Year.

## **Q: What if I am unsure about a specific citation format for a rare source type in my sociology paper?**

A: Consult the official Chicago Manual of Style (latest edition) for the most accurate and comprehensive guidance. If departmental guidelines exist, prioritize those. Online resources and academic librarians can also offer assistance.

## **[Chicago Style Sociology Paper Reference Examples](#)**

Chicago Style Sociology Paper Reference Examples

## **Related Articles**

- [chief marketing officer sales](#)
- [chicago style research paper formatting](#)
- [chicago style referencing cited quotes](#)

[Back to Home](#)