Reference styles

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References

Roles

- Ensure intellectual integrity by giving credit to others whose work contributed to the research
- Provide users of references with sufficient information to locate the published work
References in use

1. At end of document as list of all references that contribute to the work (references, bibliography, literature cited, end-references)
2. Within text in abbreviated form (in-text references) that refer to end-references
Three main systems

Type chosen determines the order of references for the reference list and way in-text references are done.

- Citation-sequence
- Citation-name
- Name-year
Systems of referencing

**Citation-sequence** (Nature, Science)

**Citation-name** (Journal of Industrial Microbial Biotechnology)

**Name-year** (Canadian Journal of Forest Research, Chinese Forestry)
Citation-sequence

- Uses numbers in text to refer to end-references
- Numbers are assigned in order that reference appears in text
  - ..tarantulas are native to the site\(^1\)
- End list of references is in order which they first appear in text
  - \(^1\). Smith AB. Tarantulas of Guatemala. Can J For Res. 1995 Jan;52(12):1048-1060
Citation-name

- Uses alphabetical end-reference list by author and then title
- References are then numbered in this sequence such that work by ‘A’ Adams is #1, Brown #2 etc
- These numbers are then used in the in-text referencing regardless of the sequence in which they are mentioned
Name-year

- Uses surname and year of publication in text
  - ...the high value reported (Smith 2007)...

- End references are in alphabetical order of surname

Also known as the Harvard system
Multiple works by same author

- In text place years after author in chronological order
  - Smith’s studies on tree volume (Smith 1970, 1976, 2004)

- In end-reference
  - Smith AB. 1970
  - Smith AB. 1976
  - Smith AB. 2004
Name-year

Multiple authors

If reference has 2 authors give both names with “and” in in-text reference

- Earlier commentary on rhubarb growth (Smith and Brown 2001)

- Smith AB, Brown CD. 2001
Name-year

Multiple authors

If reference has 3 or more authors give only first author name in-text followed by *et al* and publication year

- Earlier commentary on rhubarb growth (Jones *et al* 2001)

Organizations as authors

- For in-text reference use initial letter of each part of the name
  - The landmark report on dandelions (IOW 1996)

- For end-references use abbreviation first
  - [IOW] Institute of Weeds (UK). 1996
Name-year

Works with no clear date

If work has no publication date available

- Rhubarb grew well in the sun (Jones and Smith [date unknown])

- Jones AB, Smith CD. [date unknown].
Placement of references

Place in-text references immediately following the word, phrase or title to which is directly relevant rather than appearing at the end of long clauses or sentences.

The most recent report *(Brown 2007)* on the use of ..
What to include in a reference list

- NEVER include a reference to an article that you have not seen
- Do not cite something that you have seen cited by someone else but have not seen yourself
- If you cannot see an original document cited by someone else then cite the source of your information
Many publishers now produce different versions of a document for print & Internet. Such documents may not be identical.

It is important to state the specific version you have seen – if you saw the electronic version, do not cite the print version.
Sorting reference lists

M’Veigh
Ignore apostrophe and treat as Mveigh
Carter AB
De la Salle KG
Merrit TE
M’Veigh RD

The Institute for Rhubarb Research
Drop “the” in organization names
Sorting reference lists

University of British Columbia, Faculty of Forestry

Place organization names in descending hierarchy

University of British Columbia

In the name-year system when an acronym (UBC) has been used as an in-text reference, place in end-ref by full name
Multiple items by same author

Always put single authors before 2 authors and 2 authors before 3 authors

Give multiauthor publications in alphabetical order by second author surname, regardless of the number of authors
Multiple items by same author

Examples

**Name-year**

Smith A. 1999. New approaches …
Smith A. 2001. Historical …
Smith A, Jones B. 2004. Drop out …
Smith A, Jones B, Carson C. 2000. After the …
Book referencing

Should include the following information

Author
Title
Edition
Secondary author
Place of publication
Publisher
Date
Extent (pages)
Journal referencing

Should include the following information:

- Author
- Article title
- Journal title
- Edition
- Volume
- Issue
- Extent (pages)
Internet referencing

Title and URL (universal resource locator) is not sufficient as sites can often disappear. Must have a date on any reference. Internet reference date may have to be date of update plus date cited.