

A Quick Guide to Chicago Style

The Chicago style of citing sources is very different from both MLA and APA. Also known as the “Turabian” style, it is primarily used in history classes, although it also can be found elsewhere. References in Chicago style are meant to provide your reader with resources for additional research rather than to “check” your work.

Types of Sources

Papers written in Chicago style use more academic sources like journal articles and books. Popular media, like websites, YouTube, and even newspapers and magazines, don’t carry as much weight and are only cited in the running text of your paper, not in the bibliography (personal communication is cited this way as well). For example, you might cite a newspaper article as follows:

John Smith, author of “The New World” in The New York Times, says.....

Notice that there is no citation at the end of the sentence to refer your reader to your bibliography page, but the sentence includes important information about the source.

Endnotes or Footnotes

Citations are indicated with a superscript number at the end of a quote or paraphrase, like this.¹ The superscript will come after quotation marks. Notes will be numbered to match the superscripts.

1. Firstname Lastname, Title of Book (Place of Publication: Publisher, Year): [Page(s) Cited].
2. Firstname Lastname, “Title of Article,” Title of Journal [volume], no. [issue] (Year): [Page(s) Cited].

Note: Items in [] will be notated with a numeral.

Repeated Sources

Chicago style only requires you to completely cite sources in your notes the first time you use them. Subsequent citations may be shortened. You need to include the author’s last name, a shortened version of the title without articles (the, a, an) at the beginning (use your own discretion to determine how many words you need to include to adequately identify the source), and the page number(s) cited.

1. Lastname, “Title,” #.

Don’t forget to include complete source information in your bibliography.

Bibliography

Chicago style requires a bibliography page at the end of the paper (the word “Bibliography” will be centered at the top of the page to indicate it). References are single-spaced with a double space between them, they are alphabetized, and they have a hanging indent. **MAKE SURE TO INCLUDE ALL SOURCES YOU CONSULTED IN YOUR BIBLIOGRAPHY, NOT JUST SOURCES CITED.** Citations in your bibliography are very similar in format to the style used in the footnotes or endnotes. Notice the order of first and last names, the punctuation, and the page numbers included.

Lastname, Firstname. Title of Book. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year. [All Pages for Source].

Lastname, Firstname. “Title of Article.” Title of Journal. [volume], no. [issue] (Year): [All Pages for Source].

For more information, consult the Chicago Manual of Style (16th ed.) or www.dianahacker.com

