CITING SOURCES

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Most of the academic world is organized by disciplines, such as Anthropology, History, or Political Science. Each discipline has a standard set of citation procedures that allows writers to let readers know where they got their information, and to avoid passing off another person’s ideas as their own (plagiarism).

International Studies, however, draws methods and perspective from dozens of disciplines. The result is that an undergraduate International Studies major might be called upon to use many different types of citation throughout their college career. In some ways this is par for the course in a challenging interdisciplinary program such as ours. On the other hand, since each format takes time to master, it is to your advantage to focus on learning a few formats, and learning them well.

The four International Studies core faculty members have thus agreed that in courses we teach, we will always accept the following formats: Chicago Style (footnotes), Modern Language Association, American Political Science Association, and American Psychological Association. We suggest that you identify, early on, the one that best fits your intellectual style, and that you focus on mastering this format throughout your college career. Other faculty in other courses, including some I/ST courses, may have different requirements, but with one or two of these four popular styles under your belt, you should be fine in most of your classes. Also, you may wish to consider learning how to use RefWorks, a program free to CSULB students that instantly creates your citations for you in any program you choose http://www.csulb.edu/library/refworks/ .

Chicago style – footnotes

Often used in: History

How it works: In Chicago footnote style, the writer places a footnote at the end of each sentence that requires a citation, and then follows a specific format to list that source in the footnotes. There is then a bibliography that lists all sources used.

Sample footnote for a one-author book:

Sample bibliography entry for a one-author book:

For specific examples and more information:
http://www.csulb.edu/library/eref/vref/style.html#Chicago

Modern Language Association (MLA) style

Often used in: Literature, humanities, arts
How it works: In MLA style, the writer indicates author and/or page numbers parenthetically in the text itself. Then there is a bibliography that lists all sources used.

Sample in-text citation for a one-author book:
Media and imagery are critical components of globalization (Appadurai 67-8).
Appadurai argues that media and imagery are critical components of globalization (67-8).

Sample bibliography entry for a one-author book:

For specific examples and more information:
http://bcs.bedfordstmartins.com/resdoc5e/RES5e_ch08_o.html

American Psychological Association (APA) style

Often used in: Social sciences, nursing, education

How it works: In APA style, the writer indicates the author and year parenthetically in the text itself. Then there is a bibliography that lists all sources used.

Sample in-text citation for a one-author book:
Media and imagery are critical components of globalization (Appadurai, 1996).

Sample bibliography entry for a one-author book:

For specific examples and more information:
http://www.csulb.edu/library/eref/vref/style.html#APA

American Political Science Association (APSA) style

Often used in: Political science, sociology, government, policy

How it works: In APSA style, the writer indicates the author and year parenthetically in the text itself. Then there is a bibliography that lists all sources used.

Sample in-text citation for a one-author book:
Media and imagery are critical components of globalization (Appadurai 1996).

Sample bibliography entry for a one-author book:

For specific examples and more information:
http://citessource.trincoll.edu/apsa/apsa.html