Scientific Citations

INTERNAL CITATIONS

Internal citations are used to indicate the source of information within the sentence or paragraph in which the information is presented. The form of the internal citation is usually the last name of the author (or authors) followed the publication date; e.g., "(Jones 1995)". To list multiple citations by the same author, place commas between the years; e.g., "(Smith and Kennedy 1999, 2002)". For multiple citations by different authors, place a comma between citations; e.g., (Brown 1988, King 2000). For multiple citations by the same author(s) in the same year, use lower case letters to distinguish them; e.g., (Hodge et al. 1999a, 1999b). When you use a direct quote, (which you should rarely do in scientific writing), include an internal citation at the end of that sentence. For example: "Chestnuts grow best in moist environments, but they do exhibit some drought resistance," (Stanford 1998). The Introduction, Methods, and Discussion sections of most scientific papers include lots of internal citations.

LITERATURE CITED

There are many different formats for scientific citations, but they mostly include the same information in the same order:

a. Author (usually last names and first initials)

b. Year of publication

c. Title, in plain text. Capitalize the first word and proper nouns only, and do not underlined, italicized, or put in all caps. A book title or chapter should have Title case (capitalization of all but minor words)

d. Journal name and volume, or publisher and place of publication if it is a book.

You should list your references in alphabetical order (by author). Use hanging indentation (indent every line but the first). If two references in a row have the same author, put in chronological order. Italicize genus and species names. Below are some examples in the format used by the journal Ecology.

Example:


http://faculty.uvi.edu/users/astanfo/write/Citations.htm
last modified by C. Schwemm, from S. Anderson 9-14-07 (after A. Stanford's version on 3-3-03)
Citation formats for the journal Ecology (Ecological Society of America)\(^2\)
Note: this is the preferred style of citation formatting in the ESRM Program

Journal article:
One author:
Last name, First initial. Second initial. Date. Title. Journal title volume number:pages.


Two or more authors:


Chapter in a book:
Last name and First initial. Second initial. Last name, editors. Book title. Publisher name, City of publication, State of publication, Country of publication.


Book:
Last name, First initial. Second initial., First initial. Last name, and First initial. Second initial. Last name. Date. Book title. Publisher, City of publication, State of publication, Country of publication.

\(^2\) Source: http://esapubs.org/esapubs/preparation.htm#For; modified from newarkwww.rutgers.edu/guides/citation.doc

**Government document:**


**Dissertation:**
Last name, First initial. Second initial. Date. Title. Dissertation type, Institution, Location, State


**Web page:** (Note that the citation includes the date last modified AND, in parentheses, the date you accessed the site.) Cite web pages only when you have no other alternative. Web pages are not permanent and they generally don’t represent peer-review material, so they are a poor choice for a reference.

Farabee, M. J. 1997. Plants and their structure II.

**Software:**
Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

**Interview:**