Citing and referencing academic sources

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Demystifying citation

Session Objectives:
• What is a reference or citation?
• Examples of citations
• What is a citation or reference style?
• The Harvard Referencing style
• Avoiding plagiarism
• Where to get more information about citing and referencing
What is a reference or citation?

• A way of giving credit for someone's thinking, writing or research
• You mark the material when you use it (a citation) and give the full identification at the end (a reference)
• In academic writing you are obliged to attribute every piece of material you use to its author

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Why cite or reference?

• Credit sources of information & ideas
• Reader can locate for further information if required
• Validate arguments
• Increase and spread knowledge
• Show depth, breadth & quality of your reading!
When to cite?

- Direct quotes
- Statistics/Studies
- Theories
- Facts
- Interpretations
- Paraphrases
The prologue to Peter Stevens’ (2003) “The Voyage of the Catalpa” has a strong Irish flavour yet it is clearly set on the eastern seaboard of the United States of America.

A study by O'Connor of the CIABA foundation found that 52 scientific journals had used 33 different reference styles (cited by Garfield 1986, p. 3)
The beautifully refitted and well equipped ship carried supplies for two years at sea whaling in the Atlantic (Stevens 2003).

We all perceive the world around us in ways that are often unique to us through a series of personal filters and we 'construct' our own versions of reality (Kelly 1955).
The conspiratorial tone of the prologue is no better expressed than in the final line, “Not a man but ourselves had the least suspicion of her true mission, and she is well on her way now.” (Stevens, 2003, p. 2).
A recent study (Oshagbemi, 2004) also suggests that older managers can bring balance to a management team, as older managers, compared to younger, consult more widely and favour more participation, which tends to be well-received by other staff. Oshagbemi asserts that: "older workers tend to have a maturity and wisdom that enables them to anticipate problems and to respond to them calmly and with confidence" (p.2).
A citation style or reference system is a standardised system for referring to materials used in your writing.

There are several different citation styles developed independently by professional organisations.

University Departments generally stipulate which style to use for your subject.
The Harvard Referencing style

• The most commonly used system in College
• Also known as the “author date system”
• There are very specific rules for textual citations
• There are very specific rules for listing your references at the end of your essay
“Bibliography” and “References”

The conventions of your subject will determine which term you use.

In the Harvard system, references are listed alphabetically.

There is a double space between references.
Book:
Citation listed in a ‘References’

Journal article


– The “Irish Journal of Social History” is fictitious and for this example only
Avoiding plagiarism

- The availability of text in digital form increases the possibility of accidentally using someone else's material without acknowledgement.

- Make sure you record all the details of the material you make notes on at the time so that you know who’s it is later.

- By all means use quotes and paraphrased material but cite it properly.
ARC of Successful Citing & Referencing

• Be ACCURATE – each source comes from, including page numbers

• Be RIGOUROUS – only each and every source you have cited is in References

• Be CONSISTENT – same procedure throughout paper

(Deane, 2009, p. 4)

Referencing

Papers on the same subjects will use similar terminology, and draw on the ideas and research that has gone before. However, it is also expected that credit is given to sources by referencing them.

- Readers can find the original sources and see if ideas are adequately represented
- Shows author is not trying to claim another's ideas as their own (plagiarism)

References are presented in a shortened form in the text and in full as a reference list, using a reference style to display them in a standardised and comprehensive way.

Reference Styles
Further information

- http://www.tcd.ie/Library/support/referencing.php
- http://www.learnhigher.ac.uk
- http://www.coventry.ac.uk/caw
- http://www.cite.auckland.ac.nz
- http://www.qub.ac.uk/cite2write/