

Library



Figure 1 Laurier Library Logo

Getting Started: ACS Style Quick Citation Guide

What is the ACS Style?

American Chemical Society (ACS) style is one of several styles for academic and professional writing. This Getting Started library handout covers frequently used citations and refers to the Guide (The ACS Style Guide: Effective Communication of Scientific Information is available in print in Quick Reference via the call number QD8.5 .A25 2006 and available online <http://pubs.acs.org/isbn/9780841239999>. For more details and many more examples, see [Chapter 14 References](#) of The ACS Style Guide.

General Rules

**The following are recommendations. Final rules will be determined by the specific journals guidelines and professor preferences.

- **Formatting:** The preferred font is a serif typeface such as Times New Roman with 14-point size. Single-space between all lines of text, including the reference list. Have uniform margins of 3/4 inch on all sides.
- **Hanging indents** should be used for the reference list entries. This means that all lines after the first line of each entry should be indented one half inch from the left margin (in Word 2007 use Paragraph>Special>Hanging).
- **Arrange reference list entries** in the order used in your paper (numerically based on footnote/endnote number). Use only the initial(s) of the author's given name, not the full name, with a space between the initials.
- **Italicize journal titles, volume numbers and even the comma following the volume number** (do not italicize the comma if followed by the issue number). Do not italicize issue numbers (i.e. the number which appears in parentheses after the volume number if the journal has issues that continuously begin with page 1).

- The ACS style does not allow the use of secondary sources. You must locate the original source of information when citing a work that you have read.

- References cited in the text must appear in the reference list and vice versa.

Citations in Text

In the ACS style, there are three ways to cite references in text. For assistance with other styles please consult The ACS Style Guide.

The preference is:

- **By superscript numbers** (i.e. a raised number) [Ch. 14, p.287-289]
 - a. These will appear outside of the punctuation if citing the full sentence.
 - b. If citing a part of a sentence it will appear next to the information being cited.
 - c. Citations are numbered consecutively in the order that they appear in your assignment.
 - d. The citations for these will be grouped together at the end of the paper in a references list.
 - e. Once a resource has been cited once, that same number is used to cite the other citations for this resource in the assignment.

E.g. The primary structure of the enzyme was determined to be a globular protein.¹

Remember when citing in text:

1. When using a direct quotation, cite as you would any other idea with a superscript. E.g. Stereotypes have been

defined as “generalized and usually value-laden impressions that one’s social group uses in characterizing members of another group.”²

2. When paraphrasing an idea, the citation will be indicated with a superscript. E.g. A study of the comparison process shows that ... has to be completed.³

3. Order multiple works as they would appear in the reference list in superscript without spaces between. E.g. Past research^{2,7-9,12} has shown...

Journal Articles - Print (pp 291-293)

Author 1; Author 2; Author 3; etc. *Journal Abbreviation* **Year, Volume**, xx-yy.

Example:

Mokry, D. Z.; Nadia-Albete, A.; Johnson, M. K.; Lukat-Rodgers, G. S.; Rodgers, K. R.; Lanzilotta, W. N. *Biochim. Biophys. Acta* **2014**, *1840*, 3058-3066.

TIPS:

* If each issue of a journal begins on page 1, give the issue number in parentheses immediately after the volume number (pp 296).

* Remember that both the publication year and the comma following it are bolded.

* To help find journal abbreviations consult the full ACS Style Guide available in the library or use CASSI abbreviations list (<http://cassi.cas.org/>).

* No pp is indicated before the page numbers for journal articles.

* Note that there is no comma or semicolon before or after journal titles.

*Article titles are not normally included in the citation for print journals.

Journal Articles – Electronic

Author 1; Author 2; Author 3; etc. Title. *Journal Abbreviation* [Online] **Year, Volume**, xx-yy. url (accessed Month Day, Year).

Example:

Vandanabeele, P.; Edwards, H.G.M.; Moesn, L.A. Decade of Raman Spectroscopy in Art and Archaeology. *Chem. Rev.* [Online] **2007**, *107*, 675-686. <http://pubs.acs.org/cgi-bin/article.cgi/chreavy/2007/107/i03/html/cr068036i.html> (accessed Mar 19, 2007).

TIPS

*Article titles are included in the citation for electronic journal articles.

*There is no DOI included in the reference.

Books – Entire Book (pp 300)

Author 1; Author 2; Author 3; etc. *Book Title*, Edition Number (if any); Series Information (if any); Publisher: Place of Publication, Year; Volume number (if any).

Example:

Symons, M. C. R.; Gutteridge, J. M. C. *Free Radicals and Iron: Chemistry, Biology, and Medicine*; Oxford University Press: New York, 1998.

TIPS:

* Indicate the 2 letter abbreviation of the state or province that the publication city is located in if the city is not well known. This would be listed following the comma after the city and includes another comma following it.

Example:

Oxford University Press: New York, NY, 1998.

Books Edited Print Chapter (pp 300)

Author 1; Author 2; Author 3; etc. In *Book Title*, Edition Number (if any); Editor 1, Editor 2, etc., Ed(s).; Series Information (if any); Publisher: Place of Publication, Year; pp xx-yy.

Example:

Harris, W. R. In *Molecular and Cellular Iron Transport*; Templeton D. M., Ed.; Marcel Dekker: New York, 2002; pp 10-21.

TIPS:

* If you are citing the full book and no authors are listed, simply start at Book Title.

Books Edited Online Without Editors (pp 319-320)

Author 1; Author 2; Author 3; etc. *Book Title* [Online]; Series Information (if any); Publisher: Place of Publication, Year; Pagination citing.

Example:

Ingram, V. M. *Hemoglobin and its Abnormalities* [Online]; Charles C. Thomas: Springfield, 1961; pp 50-52.

TIPS:

* You will not need to indicate the URL or accessed date as it states in the full citation guide. Please follow this format.

Books – Online with Editors and Chapter (pp 320)

Author 1; Author 2; Author 3; etc. In *Book Title* [Online]; Edition Number (if any); Editor 1, Editor 2, etc., Eds.; Series Information (if any); Publisher: Place of Publication, Year; Pagination citing.

Example:

Harris, W. R. *In Molecular and Cellular Iron Transport* [Online]; Templeton D. M., Ed.; Marcel Dekker: New York, 2002; pp 10-21.

TIPS:

* You will not need to indicate the URL or accessed date as it states in the full citation guide. Please follow this format.

References

1. Mokry, D. Z.; Nadia-Albete, A.; Johnson, M. K.; Lukat-Rodgers, G. S.; Rodgers, K. R.; Lanzilotta, W. N. *Biochim. Biophys. Acta* **2014**, *1840*, 3058-3066.
2. Vandanabeele, P.; Edwards, H.G.M.; Moesn, L.A. Decade of Raman Spectroscopy in Art and Archaeology. *Chem. Rev.* [Online] **2007**, *107*, 675-686. <http://pubs.acs.org/cgi-bin/article.cgi/chreavy/2007/107/i03/html/cr068036i.html> (accessed Mar 19, 2007).
3. Symons, M. C. R.; Gutteridge, J. M. C. *Free Radicals and Iron: Chemistry, Biology, and Medicine*; Oxford University Press: New York, 1998; pp 34-54.
4. Harris, W. R. In *Molecular and Cellular Iron Transport*; Templeton D. M., Ed.; Marcel Dekker: New York, 2002; pp 10-21.
5. Ingram, V. M. *Hemoglobin and its Abnormalities* [Online]; Charles C. Thomas: Springfield, 1961; pp 50-52.
6. Harris, W. R. *In Molecular and Cellular Iron Transport* [Online]; Templeton D. M., Ed.; Marcel Dekker: New York, 2002; pp 10-21.

TIPS

*Start your reference list on a new page and single-space all entries. Generally, your paper should be written in 14-pt Times Roman with 3/4" margins.

*Number your references.

*For journal articles, only include the issue number if the journal is paginated by issue, ie. Each issue begins on page 1 (pp. 199).

*When ordering your references, always list them in the order they appear in your assignment.