

chicago citation examples for issn

Chicago Citation Examples for ISSN: A Comprehensive Guide

chicago citation examples for issn are crucial for academic integrity and scholarly communication, ensuring that original sources are properly acknowledged. When citing serial publications, particularly those with an International Standard Serial Number (ISSN), adhering to the Chicago Manual of Style (CMOS) is paramount. This guide delves into the intricacies of citing serials, offering clear and practical examples for various scenarios involving the ISSN. We will explore how to format citations for both footnotes/endnotes and bibliographies, emphasizing the correct placement and usage of the ISSN. Understanding these principles will empower researchers and writers to present their work with accuracy and professionalism, avoiding plagiarism and enhancing the credibility of their research. This comprehensive overview will cover both the Notes-Bibliography system and the Author-Date system of Chicago style, providing actionable insights for diverse academic needs.

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Understanding the ISSN

The International Standard Serial Number, or ISSN, is a unique eight-digit identifier for serial publications, such as journals, magazines, and newspapers. It is managed by the International ISSN Network and assigned to publications regardless of their medium (print or electronic). The ISSN is a vital tool for librarians, publishers, and researchers to identify and track specific serial titles, distinguishing them from other publications with similar names. Its primary purpose is to facilitate the ordering, cataloging, and interlibrary loan of serials.

While the ISSN is a crucial identifier, its inclusion in Chicago style citations is not always mandatory. The necessity of including the ISSN often depends on the specific type of source being cited and the Chicago style system being employed (Notes-Bibliography or Author-Date). Generally, the ISSN is most relevant when citing specific issues or articles within serial publications, especially when distinguishing between print and electronic versions or when the publication might be easily confused with another.

The Chicago Manual of Style: Notes-Bibliography System

The Notes-Bibliography system is widely used in the humanities and encourages extensive use of footnotes or endnotes to cite sources. The bibliography at the end of the work provides a comprehensive list of all sources consulted. When citing serial publications, the Chicago Manual of Style provides detailed guidelines for both notes and bibliography entries.

Citing a Journal Article in a Print Edition

For a journal article found in a print edition, the note entry typically includes the author(s), article title, journal title, volume and issue numbers, publication date, and page numbers. The ISSN is generally not included in the note for a print journal article unless there is a specific reason to distinguish it from an online counterpart or if it's a less commonly known journal.

Example Note:

1. Jane Doe, "The Evolution of Citation Practices," *Journal of Scholarly Publishing* 45, no. 3 (Spring 2022): 115.

The corresponding bibliography entry would be formatted similarly, typically omitting the ISSN unless it aids in identification. The key is to provide enough information for the reader to locate the source.

Example Bibliography Entry:

Doe, Jane. "The Evolution of Citation Practices." *Journal of Scholarly Publishing* 45, no. 3 (Spring 2022): 115-130.

Citing a Journal Article in an Online Edition

When citing a journal article accessed online, the citation should include information that allows the reader to access the electronic version. This often means including the journal's DOI (Digital Object Identifier) or the URL. The ISSN may be included in the bibliography entry, especially if it helps to clearly identify the specific serial title, particularly if there are multiple versions or if the journal is primarily known by its

ISSN.

Example Note:

2. John Smith, "Digital Humanities and Textual Analysis," *Digital Studies Quarterly* 10, no. 1 (Winter 2023), <https://www.digitalstudiesquarterly.com/articles/smith-digital-humanities>.

In the bibliography, the ISSN is more commonly included for online serials, especially when citing the electronic version. This helps differentiate it from any potential print version and provides an additional identifier for the serial.

Example Bibliography Entry:

Smith, John. "Digital Humanities and Textual Analysis." *Digital Studies Quarterly* 10, no. 1 (Winter 2023). ISSN: 1918-2827. <https://www.digitalstudiesquarterly.com/articles/smith-digital-humanities>.

Citing a Magazine or Newspaper Article

Magazines and newspapers are also considered serials, and their articles are cited in a similar fashion, though they typically have less frequent publication schedules and may not always require volume and issue numbers. The focus is on the date of publication and the specific page(s).

Example Note (Magazine):

3. Emily Carter, "The Future of Urban Gardening," *Modern Living*, September 2023, 42.

Example Bibliography Entry (Magazine):

Carter, Emily. "The Future of Urban Gardening." *Modern Living*, September 2023, 40-45.

For newspapers, the citation would include the date and section if applicable. The ISSN is rarely included for popular magazines and newspapers in Chicago style, as their titles are usually distinct enough and they are primarily identified by their publication date and name.

Example Note (Newspaper):

4. David Lee, "City Council Approves New Zoning Laws," *Chicago Tribune*, October 26, 2023, sec. B, p. 3.

Example Bibliography Entry (Newspaper):

Lee, David. "City Council Approves New Zoning Laws." *Chicago Tribune*, October 26, 2023, sec. B, p. 3.

Citing a Standalone Issue of a Serial

Occasionally, you might need to cite an entire issue of a journal or magazine as a whole, rather than a

specific article. In such cases, the citation would focus on the publication details of that issue, including its title if it has one, and its date. The ISSN might be included here to further identify the specific serial publication.

Example Note:

5. Special issue on AI ethics, *Philosophy Today* 67, no. 4 (Fall 2023).

Example Bibliography Entry:

Special issue on AI ethics. *Philosophy Today* 67, no. 4 (Fall 2023). ISSN: 0031-8072.

The Chicago Manual of Style: Author-Date System

The Author-Date system is commonly used in the sciences and social sciences. It relies on in-text citations that include the author's last name and the year of publication, with a corresponding reference list at the end of the work. While the structure of in-text citations differs, the way serials are cited in the reference list follows similar principles to the bibliography entries in the Notes-Bibliography system.

Citing a Journal Article in a Print Edition

In the Author-Date system, the reference list entry for a print journal article will include the author(s), year, article title, journal title, volume, issue, and page numbers. The ISSN is typically not included unless it serves a specific disambiguation purpose.

Example Reference List Entry:

Doe, Jane. 2022. "The Evolution of Citation Practices." *Journal of Scholarly Publishing* 45 (3): 115-130.

Citing a Journal Article in an Online Edition

For online journal articles, the reference list entry will also include the DOI or URL. The ISSN may be included, particularly for electronic journals, to provide a more complete bibliographic record and aid in identification.

Example Reference List Entry:

Smith, John. 2023. "Digital Humanities and Textual Analysis." *Digital Studies Quarterly* 10 (1). ISSN: 1918-2827. <https://www.digitalstudiesquarterly.com/articles/smith-digital-humanities>.

Citing a Magazine or Newspaper Article

Magazine and newspaper citations in the Author-Date system focus on the publication date and page numbers, similar to the Notes-Bibliography system. The ISSN is generally omitted.

Example Reference List Entry (Magazine):

Carter, Emily. 2023. "The Future of Urban Gardening." *Modern Living*, September, 40-45.

Example Reference List Entry (Newspaper):

Lee, David. 2023. "City Council Approves New Zoning Laws." *Chicago Tribune*, October 26, sec. B, p. 3.

When to Include the ISSN

The decision to include the ISSN in Chicago style citations is nuanced and depends on several factors. Generally, the ISSN is most useful when:

- You are citing an electronic version of a serial and want to clearly distinguish it from a print version.
- The serial publication is obscure, has a common title, or is likely to be confused with another publication.
- You are creating a bibliography entry and believe the ISSN will significantly aid readers in locating the specific serial.
- The style guide or specific publication you are writing for mandates its inclusion.

For well-known and distinct serials, especially in print, the ISSN is often omitted in both notes and bibliographies as it may be considered redundant. However, for online resources, the ISSN can be a valuable additional identifier, particularly when a DOI is not available or when the serial itself is the primary focus rather than a specific article within it.

Variations and Special Cases

Chicago style is flexible, and there may be instances where standard examples don't perfectly fit. For example, if a serial has a subtitle, it should be included. If a journal has changed its title over time, you would cite it under its current title and potentially note previous titles in your bibliography. For very

specific or rare serials, you might need to consult the latest edition of the Chicago Manual of Style or the guidelines of your institution or publisher for the most appropriate format.

When citing government documents or other specialized publications that are serial in nature, always verify if they have an ISSN. If they do, and it aids in identifying the publication, consider including it. The overarching principle is clarity and traceability. If the inclusion of the ISSN contributes to a reader's ability to find your source accurately, it's generally a good practice to include it.

The importance of accurately identifying serial publications cannot be overstated in academic writing. By understanding when and how to incorporate the ISSN into your Chicago style citations, you enhance the precision and professionalism of your research. Remember to always consult the latest edition of the Chicago Manual of Style for the most up-to-date guidelines.

Q: When is it most important to include the ISSN in Chicago style citations?

A: It is most important to include the ISSN in Chicago style citations when you are citing an electronic version of a serial to differentiate it from a print version, when the serial publication has a common title and might be confused with others, or when the ISSN significantly aids readers in locating the specific publication.

Q: Should I always include the ISSN for journal articles in Chicago style?

A: No, you should not always include the ISSN for journal articles in Chicago style. It is generally omitted for well-known print journals unless it serves a specific disambiguation purpose. For online journals, it is more often included, especially in bibliography or reference list entries.

Q: How does the inclusion of ISSN differ between the Notes-Bibliography and Author-Date systems in Chicago style?

A: The inclusion of the ISSN is generally similar in both systems. It's more commonly found in bibliography entries (Notes-Bibliography) and reference list entries (Author-Date) for online serials or when disambiguation is necessary. It is rarely included in footnote or endnote citations for print serials.

Q: What if I can't find the ISSN for a serial publication?

A: If you cannot find the ISSN for a serial publication, do not try to invent one. Simply omit it from your citation. The absence of an ISSN does not invalidate your citation, as long as you have provided all other necessary bibliographic information.

Q: Is the ISSN the same as a DOI?

A: No, the ISSN and the DOI (Digital Object Identifier) are different. The ISSN identifies a serial publication (like a journal or magazine), while a DOI is a unique identifier for a specific digital object, such as an article or a book chapter, allowing for persistent linking.

Q: How should I format the ISSN if I include it in a bibliography entry?

A: When including the ISSN in a Chicago style bibliography entry, it is typically placed after the journal title and publication details, often preceded by "ISSN:" or simply listed as a standalone piece of information. For example: ISSN: 1234-5678.

Q: Should I include the ISSN when citing a website that is a serial publication?

A: If the website functions as a serial publication (e.g., an online journal or magazine) and has an assigned ISSN, you can include it in your citation, particularly in the bibliography or reference list, to provide a more complete identifier.

Q: What is the primary purpose of the ISSN in academic citations?

A: The primary purpose of the ISSN in academic citations is to uniquely identify a serial publication, distinguishing it from others and facilitating its retrieval by readers, especially in cases of similar titles or different editions (print vs. online).

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