

chicago manual of style bibliography examples for dissertation

Mastering Your Dissertation: Chicago Manual of Style Bibliography Examples for Dissertations

chicago manual of style bibliography examples for dissertation are a cornerstone of academic integrity and scholarly communication. For doctoral candidates, a meticulously formatted bibliography is not merely a list of sources; it's a testament to rigorous research and adherence to established academic conventions. This article provides a comprehensive guide to navigating the intricacies of the Chicago Manual of Style (CMOS) for your dissertation's bibliography, offering clear examples for various source types to ensure accuracy and consistency. We will delve into the fundamental principles of CMOS citation, explore common source categories with detailed examples, and address potential challenges, empowering you to confidently assemble a polished and professional bibliography that upholds the highest academic standards.

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Understanding the Chicago Manual of Style for Bibliographies

The Chicago Manual of Style (CMOS) offers two primary citation systems: the Notes-Bibliography system and the Author-Date system. For dissertations, the Notes-Bibliography system is overwhelmingly the preferred choice, as it allows for detailed explanations and supplementary information within footnotes or endnotes, which are common in doctoral research. The bibliography, appearing at the end of the work, then serves as a consolidated, alphabetically arranged list of all sources cited in the notes.

A well-crafted bibliography in CMOS format demonstrates a commitment to scholarly practice. It allows readers to easily locate and verify the sources you have consulted, lending credibility to your arguments and research findings. Adhering to CMOS ensures uniformity across your academic work and with the broader scholarly community that utilizes this widely respected style guide.

Key Principles of CMOS Bibliography Formatting

Before diving into specific examples, it's crucial to grasp the overarching principles that govern CMOS bibliography entries. These principles ensure clarity, consistency, and ease of use for your readers.

Alphabetical Arrangement

The most fundamental principle of a CMOS bibliography is its alphabetical arrangement. Entries are listed from A to Z based on the author's last name. If a work has no author, it is alphabetized by the first significant word of the title (ignoring articles like "a," "an," and "the").

Indentation and Spacing

CMOS employs a specific indentation style for bibliographies, known as a "hanging indent." This means the first line of each entry is flush with the left margin, while subsequent lines are indented. Typically, this indentation is set at 0.5 inches or one standard tab stop. Double-spacing is generally recommended between all lines of a bibliography entry and between entries themselves, though individual institutions or departments may have specific spacing requirements.

Punctuation and Capitalization

CMOS is precise about punctuation and capitalization within bibliography entries. Commas, periods, colons, and parentheses are used strategically to delineate different components of the citation. Titles of books and journals are italicized, while titles of articles and chapters are placed in quotation marks. Capitalization generally follows title case for titles of works.

Core Bibliographical Information

Each entry must contain essential information that uniquely identifies the source. While the exact elements vary by source type, they generally include:

- Author's full name (last name first)
- Title of the work
- Publication details (city, publisher, year for books; journal title, volume, issue, year for articles)
- Page numbers (if applicable)
- DOI or URL (for online sources)

Common Source Types and Their Bibliography Examples

Navigating the diverse array of sources encountered during dissertation research can be daunting. Here are detailed examples for some of the most frequently cited materials, adhering to CMOS guidelines.

Books

Citing books is a fundamental skill. The structure of a book citation in a CMOS bibliography involves the author's name, the title, and publication information.

Single-Authored Book

Author's Last Name, First Name. *Title of Book*. City of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication.

Example:

Foucault, Michel. *Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison*. New York: Vintage Books, 1995.

Edited Book

Editor's Last Name, First Name, ed. *Title of Book*. City of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication.

Example:

Said, Edward W., ed. *The Middle East: An Origin Story*. New York: Pantheon Books, 2001.

Book with Two or Three Authors

Author1's Last Name, First Name, Author2's First Name Last Name, and Author3's First Name Last

Name. *Title of Book*. City of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication.

Example:

Guerin, Wilfred L., Earle Labor, Lee Morgan, Joyce Strader, and Henry M. R. Coleman. *A Handbook of Critical Approaches to Literature*. 5th ed. New York: Oxford University Press, 1999.

Book with More Than Three Authors

Author1's Last Name, First Name, et al. *Title of Book*. City of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication.

Example:

Smith, John, Maria Garcia, David Chen, Emily Jones, and Robert Williams. *Global Economic Trends*. London: Global Publishing House, 2020.

Becomes:

Smith, John, et al. *Global Economic Trends*. London: Global Publishing House, 2020.

Journal Articles

Citing journal articles requires specific details about the journal itself, including volume and issue numbers, as well as page ranges.

Article from a Print Journal

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." *Title of Journal* Volume, no. Issue (Year): Page numbers.

Example:

Thompson, E. P. "Time, Work-Discipline, and Industrial Capitalism." *Past & Present*, no. 38 (1967): 56-97.

Article from an Online Journal with a DOI

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." *Title of Journal* Volume, no. Issue (Year): Page numbers. doi:XX.XXXX/XXXXXX.

Example:

Brown, Wendy. "The Persistence of Foreigner Talk." *Critical Inquiry* 30, no. 3 (2004): 576-99. doi:10.1086/422233.

Article from an Online Journal without a DOI

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." *Title of Journal* Volume, no. Issue (Year): Page numbers. Accessed Month Day, Year. URL.

Example:

Miller, Sarah. "The Evolution of Digital Humanities." *Journal of Digital Scholarship* 15, no. 2 (2018): 112-30. Accessed October 26, 2023. <https://www.journalofdigitalscholarship.org/articles/vol15/iss2/miller.pdf>.

Websites and Online Sources

Citing online content requires careful attention to ensure retrievability. Inclusion of access dates and URLs is crucial.

Web Page with an Author

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Web Page." Name of Website. Last modified Month Day, Year (if available). Accessed Month Day, Year. URL.

Example:

Green, John. "Understanding Climate Change Impacts." NASA Climate. Last modified February 15, 2023. Accessed October 26, 2023. <https://climate.nasa.gov/effects/>.

Web Page Without an Author

"Title of Web Page." Name of Website. Last modified Month Day, Year (if available). Accessed Month Day, Year. URL.

Example:

"The Rosetta Stone." The British Museum. Accessed October 26, 2023. https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/S_EA24.

Online News Article

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Headline of Article." *Name of News Publication*. Month Day, Year. Accessed Month Day, Year. URL.

Example:

Davis, Emily. "New Breakthrough in Renewable Energy Announced." *The Daily Chronicle*. October 20, 2023. Accessed October 26, 2023. <https://www.thedailychronicle.com/news/renewable-energy-breakthrough>.

Dissertations and Theses

When citing dissertations or theses, whether your own or those of others, the format includes the degree sought and the institution.

Published Dissertation

Author's Last Name, First Name. *Title of Dissertation*. PhD diss., University Name, Year.

Example:

Kim, Ji-hoon. *The Influence of Social Media on Political Engagement in South Korea*. PhD diss., Seoul National University, 2022.

Unpublished Dissertation (Accessible Online via Database)

Author's Last Name, First Name. *Title of Dissertation*. PhD diss., University Name, Year. Accessed

Month Day, Year. Database Name, Item number.

Example:

Chen, Wei. *Analyzing Patterns in Chinese Urban Development*. PhD diss., Peking University, 2019. Accessed October 26, 2023. ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global, AAT 12345678.

Book Chapters

When citing a specific chapter within an edited volume, you need to attribute the chapter to its author and the book to its editor(s).

Chapter in an Edited Book

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Chapter." In *Title of Book*, edited by Editor's First Name Last Name, Page numbers. City of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication.

Example:

Said, Edward W. "Orientalism Reconsidered." In *The Middle East: An Origin Story*, edited by Edward W. Said, 45–68. New York: Pantheon Books, 2001.

Government Documents

Citing government documents can be complex due to varying publication practices. CMOS provides specific guidance for these materials.

Report from a Government Agency

Issuing Agency. *Title of Report*. Report number (if applicable). City of Publication: Publisher (often the agency itself), Year of Publication.

Example:

United States, Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey: Data Documentation, Codebook, and Software*. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics, 2022.

Legislation

Full title of act. Public Law number, if applicable. Session and year. Statute citation.

Example:

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Public Law 101-336. 104 Stat. 327.

Interviews

Interviews can be cited if they were conducted by the researcher or if they are published sources. For unpublished interviews, personal communication is used in notes but may appear in the bibliography.

Unpublished Interview Conducted by the Author

Interviewer's Last Name, First Name. Interview with Interviewee's First Name Last Name. Month Day, Year. Type of interview (e.g., personal, phone).

Example:

Johnson, Robert. Interview with Maria Rodriguez. October 15, 2023. Personal interview.

Published Interview

Interviewee's Last Name, First Name. Interview by Interviewer's First Name Last Name. *Title of Publication or Collection*, Month Day, Year. Page numbers (if applicable).

Example:

Garcia, Carlos. Interview by Maria Sanchez. *Latin American Perspectives*, November 5, 2022. 34-38.

Special Considerations for Dissertation Bibliographies

Beyond the standard source types, dissertations may involve unique materials or require specific formatting nuances. Understanding these can prevent common errors.

Anonymously Authored Works

When a work lacks an author, it is alphabetized by the first significant word of the title. Articles such as "a," "an," and "the" are ignored for alphabetization purposes.

Example:

The Cambridge History of English Literature. Edited by F. W. Bateson and H. J. C. Grierson. New York: Macmillan, 1907.

Works with Corporate Authors

If an organization or institution is the author, it is listed as the author. Corporate authors are alphabetized by the first word of their name.

Example:

World Health Organization. *Global Strategy for Health for All by the Year 2000*. Geneva: WHO, 1981.

Reprinted Works

When citing a work that has been reprinted, include the original publication date along with the new edition's details.

Example:

Marx, Karl. *Das Kapital*. 1867. Reprint, New York: Penguin Classics, 2004.

Secondary Sources

While it is best practice to consult original sources, you may encounter situations where you cite a source that discusses another source. In CMOS, you typically cite the source you actually read, even if it's a secondary citation. If you mention a work you haven't read but were told about, you would cite it as "cited in" the source you did read.

Example (citing a source you read that discusses another source):

Smith, John. "Analysis of Ancient Texts." *Historical Review* 25, no. 1 (2019): 15-30. (Discussing an earlier work by an author whose name you might mention in the text or note if relevant).

Tools and Resources for CMOS Bibliography Management

Manually formatting a dissertation bibliography can be time-consuming and prone to errors. Fortunately, several tools and resources can assist you.

Citation Management Software

Software like Zotero, Mendeley, and EndNote can automatically format citations and bibliographies in various styles, including CMOS. These tools allow you to import citation data from databases and websites, organize your research, and generate bibliographies with a few clicks. While incredibly helpful, always double-check the generated bibliographies against CMOS guidelines to ensure accuracy, as software can sometimes make minor errors.

The Chicago Manual of Style Online

The official CMOS website provides a comprehensive digital resource for consulting the latest edition of the manual. It includes search functions, style guides, and forums that can be invaluable for resolving specific citation questions. Access to this resource is typically subscription-based but is often available through university libraries.

University Writing Centers and Librarians

Your university's writing center and library staff are excellent resources. They can offer personalized guidance on CMOS formatting, review your bibliography for accuracy, and help you locate specific style guidelines. Librarians, in particular, are experts in research and citation practices and can be instrumental in ensuring the quality of your bibliography.

FAQ: Chicago Manual of Style Bibliography Examples for Dissertation

Q: What is the primary difference between the Notes-Bibliography system and the Author-Date system in the Chicago Manual of Style for dissertations?

A: For dissertations, the Notes-Bibliography system is almost always preferred. It uses footnotes or endnotes to cite sources within the text, allowing for extensive commentary and detailed explanations. The bibliography then provides an alphabetical list of all sources cited in those notes. The Author-Date system, conversely, uses in-text parenthetical citations (Author Year) and is less common for doctoral-level research where extensive notes are often beneficial.

Q: How should I format a book with more than three authors in my Chicago Manual of Style bibliography?

A: When a book has more than three authors, you list the first author's full name followed by "et al." in your bibliography. For example: Smith, John, et al. *Global Economic Trends*. London: Global Publishing House, 2020. This is a key stylistic convention in CMOS to avoid overly long author lists.

Q: What is the correct way to cite a website that doesn't have a listed author or publication date?

A: If a website lacks an author, you begin the citation with the title of the web page. If a publication date is absent, you use the phrase "Accessed Month Day, Year" to indicate when you viewed the content, followed by the URL. For example: "The Rosetta Stone." The British Museum. Accessed October 26, 2023. https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/S_EA24.

Q: Should I include DOIs or URLs for online journal articles in my Chicago Manual of Style bibliography?

A: Yes, absolutely. If an online journal article has a DOI (Digital Object Identifier), you should include it as it is the most stable way to link to the article. Format: doi:XX.XXXX/XXXXXX. If a DOI is not available, provide the URL and the access date: Accessed Month Day, Year. URL.

Q: How do I format a dissertation that I accessed through a specific database in my Chicago Manual of Style bibliography?

A: For an unpublished dissertation accessed via a database, you should include the author, title, dissertation type (e.g., PhD diss.), university, year, and then indicate it was accessed through the database. Format: Author's Last Name, First Name. *Title of Dissertation*. PhD diss., University Name, Year. Accessed Month Day, Year. Database Name, Item number.

Q: What is the "hanging indent" in a Chicago Manual of Style

bibliography, and why is it important?

A: A hanging indent means that the first line of each bibliography entry is aligned with the left margin, and all subsequent lines of that entry are indented. This formatting convention is crucial for readability, making it easy for readers to distinguish individual entries and locate specific citations quickly. It's a standard requirement for CMOS bibliographies.

Q: Can I use citation management software like Zotero or Mendeley to create my Chicago Manual of Style dissertation bibliography?

A: Yes, citation management software can be a highly effective tool for generating Chicago Manual of Style bibliographies for dissertations. These tools can automate much of the formatting process, saving time and reducing errors. However, it is essential to always review the generated bibliography against the latest edition of the Chicago Manual of Style to ensure 100% accuracy, as software can sometimes have minor discrepancies.

Q: How do I cite a chapter from an edited book in my Chicago Manual of Style bibliography?

A: When citing a chapter, you must cite both the chapter's author and the book's editor(s). The format is: Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Chapter." In *Title of Book*, edited by Editor's First Name Last Name, Page numbers. City of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication. Ensure the chapter title is in quotation marks and the book title is italicized.

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