

chicago manual of style geographic journal citation

The chicago manual of style geographic journal citation is a crucial element for academics and researchers working with geographical data or publishing in journals that adhere to this widely respected citation style. Properly formatting citations ensures clarity, avoids plagiarism, and allows readers to easily locate the sources you've consulted. This article will delve into the intricacies of citing geographic journal articles according to The Chicago Manual of Style (CMOS), covering both the notes-bibliography and author-date systems. We will explore the essential components of a geographic journal citation, discuss common variations, and provide practical guidance for ensuring accuracy. Understanding these guidelines is paramount for maintaining academic integrity and contributing effectively to scholarly discourse in the field of geography.

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Understanding the Two CMOS Citation Systems

The Chicago Manual of Style offers two distinct citation systems: the notes-bibliography system and the author-date system. While both aim for accuracy and clarity, they differ in their presentation and emphasis. The notes-bibliography system, often favored in the humanities, uses numbered footnotes or endnotes to cite sources, with a corresponding bibliography at the end of the work. This system allows for extensive commentary within the notes. Conversely, the author-date system, more prevalent in the sciences and social sciences, places parenthetical citations directly within the text, referencing a corresponding reference list at the end of the document. Both systems require meticulous attention to detail when citing geographic journal articles.

Choosing the appropriate system typically depends on the discipline and the specific requirements of the publisher or institution. Geographic research often bridges various fields, so understanding both CMOS approaches is beneficial. Regardless of the chosen system, the goal remains the same: to provide readers with sufficient information to identify and retrieve the cited sources. This includes essential bibliographic details that form the foundation of any accurate citation.

Core Components of a Geographic Journal

Citation

A robust citation for a geographic journal article, regardless of the CMOS system employed, typically includes several key pieces of information. These elements are vital for enabling readers to locate the original source with precision. Missing or incorrectly formatted components can lead to confusion and hinder proper source attribution.

The fundamental components generally include:

- Author(s) names
- Article title
- Journal title
- Volume number
- Issue number (if applicable)
- Publication year
- Page numbers of the article
- DOI (Digital Object Identifier) or URL, if accessed online

The exact order and punctuation will vary between the notes-bibliography and author-date systems, but these core elements are indispensable for a complete citation of geographic journal articles.

Citing Geographic Journals: The Notes-Bibliography System

In the notes-bibliography system, geographic journal articles are first cited in footnotes or endnotes and then listed in a bibliography. The notes provide detailed information about each source, while the bibliography offers a condensed list of all sources consulted.

First Citation in a Note

The first time a specific geographic journal article is cited in a note, it requires a comprehensive citation. This includes the author's first and last name, the full article title in quotation marks, the journal title in italics, the volume and issue numbers, the year of publication in parentheses, and the specific page number(s) being referenced. If the article was accessed online, a DOI or stable URL should also be included.

For example, a first note citation might look like this:

1. Eleanor Vance, "The Shifting Landscapes of Urban Sprawl," *Journal of Geographical Studies* 45, no. 2 (2022): 115,

<https://doi.org/10.xxxx/jgs.2022.0005>.

Subsequent Citations in a Note

For any subsequent references to the same geographic journal article within the same work, a shortened note format is used. This typically includes the author's last name, a shortened version of the article title (if necessary to distinguish it from other works by the same author), and the page number. If there is no ambiguity, just the author's last name and page number may suffice.

A subsequent note might appear as:

5. Vance, "Shifting Landscapes," 122.

The Bibliography Entry

The bibliography entry for a geographic journal article follows a slightly different format from the first note. The author's last name is listed first, followed by their first name. The article title is in quotation marks, and the journal title is italicized. The volume and issue numbers are presented, followed by the year of publication. Crucially, the bibliography entry includes the full page range of the article (e.g., pp. 110-130), not just the specific page cited in the text. The DOI or URL is also included if available.

A typical bibliography entry:

Vance, Eleanor. "The Shifting Landscapes of Urban Sprawl." *Journal of Geographical Studies* 45, no. 2 (2022): 110-130.
<https://doi.org/10.xxxx/jgs.2022.0005>.

Citing Geographic Journals: The Author-Date System

The author-date system of CMOS is characterized by in-text citations and a reference list. Geographic journal articles are cited parenthetically within the text, and all sources are then compiled in a reference list at the end of the paper.

In-Text Citations

In-text citations in the author-date system are concise and placed directly within the narrative of the text, typically at the end of a sentence or clause. They include the author's last name and the year of publication. If direct quotation is used, the page number(s) must also be included within the parentheses.

An example of an in-text citation:

Urban sprawl continues to be a significant challenge for city planners (Vance 2022).

When quoting directly:

Researchers note that "the expansion of metropolitan areas is fundamentally altering ecological systems" (Vance 2022, 118).

The Reference List Entry

The reference list at the end of the document provides the full bibliographic details for each cited source. For geographic journal articles, the format is similar to the bibliography in the notes-bibliography system but with minor variations in punctuation and ordering. The author's last name is followed by their first name. The article title is in quotation marks, and the journal title is italicized. The volume number is followed by the issue number (if applicable) and then the year of publication in parentheses. The page range of the article is provided, and the DOI or URL is included if the source was accessed online.

A reference list entry would look like this:

Vance, Eleanor. 2022. "The Shifting Landscapes of Urban Sprawl." *Journal of Geographical Studies* 45 (2): 110-130. <https://doi.org/10.xxxx/jgs.2022.0005>.

Variations and Special Cases in Geographic Journal Citations

While the core components remain consistent, certain situations necessitate specific adjustments when citing geographic journal articles in CMOS. These variations ensure accuracy and completeness in diverse scholarly contexts.

Multiple Authors

When a geographic journal article has two or three authors, all names are included in both the notes and the bibliography/reference list. For works with four or more authors, the convention in the notes-bibliography system is to list the first author's full name followed by et al. in the notes. In the bibliography, however, all authors' names are listed. In the author-date system, only the first author's last name followed by et al. is used in the in-text citation, regardless of the number of authors, and all authors are listed in the reference list.

Articles Accessed Online without a DOI

If a geographic journal article is accessed online and does not have a Digital Object Identifier (DOI), a stable URL should be provided instead. It is essential to ensure the URL is accurate and leads directly to the article. CMOS advises against using URLs that are likely to break or require subscriptions to access.

Articles Republished or Translated

For articles that have been republished or translated, CMOS guidelines require including information about the original publication or translation. This helps readers track the source's lineage. The specific details will depend on the nature of the republication or translation.

Special Issues of Journals

When citing an article from a special issue of a geographic journal, the editor(s) of the special issue and the title of the special issue may need to be included in the citation. The specific format will depend on how the information is presented by the journal.

Geographic Data and Maps as Cited Sources

Beyond journal articles, researchers in geography frequently cite datasets, maps, and other forms of spatial information. CMOS provides guidance for these types of sources, which often differ significantly from traditional text-based citations.

Citing Geographic Datasets

When citing a geographic dataset, it is crucial to provide details that allow for its retrieval. This typically includes the creator or producer of the data, the title of the dataset, the version or release number, the date of creation or release, and the repository or source from which it was accessed. This information should be presented in a manner consistent with either the notes-bibliography or author-date system.

Citing Maps

Citations for maps should include the cartographer or agency responsible for creating the map, the title of the map, the scale, the place of publication, the publisher, and the year of publication. For historical maps or those accessed digitally, additional details might be necessary. The aim is to identify the specific map consulted unambiguously.

Ensuring proper citation of these non-traditional geographic sources is as vital as citing journal articles, as they form the empirical backbone of much geographic research.

Best Practices for Chicago Style Journal Citations

Adhering to the Chicago Manual of Style for geographic journal citations involves more than just following rules; it requires developing good scholarly habits. Consistency, accuracy, and meticulous record-keeping are

paramount.

Key best practices include:

- Maintain a detailed record of all sources consulted from the outset of research. This can be done using citation management software or a simple, well-organized spreadsheet.
- Always check the specific requirements of the journal or institution you are submitting to, as they may have minor variations or specific preferences regarding CMOS.
- Proofread all citations carefully for any errors in punctuation, spelling, or formatting before submission. Small mistakes can detract from the professionalism of your work.
- When in doubt, consult the latest edition of The Chicago Manual of Style or its online companion for authoritative guidance.
- Ensure that every source cited in the text or notes is present in the bibliography or reference list, and vice versa.

Implementing these practices will not only enhance the credibility of your geographic research but also streamline the citation process.

Geographic Journal Citation Examples

To further illustrate the principles of Chicago style for geographic journal articles, here are a few more examples, covering both systems and common scenarios.

Notes-Bibliography System Example:

First Note:

1. David R. Stoddart, "Geography and the Geographer: The Intellectual Context," *Journal of Historical Geography* 10, no. 1 (1984): 5-15.

Bibliography Entry:

Stoddart, David R. "Geography and the Geographer: The Intellectual Context." *Journal of Historical Geography* 10, no. 1 (1984): 5-15.

Author-Date System Example:

In-Text Citation:

The evolution of geographical thought has been a continuous process (Stoddart 1984).

Reference List Entry:

Stoddart, David R. 1984. "Geography and the Geographer: The Intellectual Context." *Journal of Historical Geography* 10 (1): 5-15.

These examples demonstrate how different types of geographic scholarship are incorporated into the Chicago style framework, ensuring clarity and scholarly rigor.

FAQ

Q: What is the primary difference between the notes-bibliography and author-date systems in Chicago style for geographic journal citations?

A: The primary difference lies in how sources are cited within the text and listed at the end. The notes-bibliography system uses footnotes or endnotes for in-text citations and a bibliography at the end. The author-date system uses parenthetical citations in the text and a reference list at the end.

Q: When citing multiple authors for a geographic journal article in the author-date system, how is it handled in the in-text citation?

A: For two or three authors, all are listed in the in-text citation. For four or more authors, only the first author's last name is listed, followed by "et al." in the in-text citation, regardless of the number of authors.

Q: Is it necessary to include the DOI for a geographic journal article if it's accessed online?

A: Yes, it is highly recommended and often required to include the DOI for online geographic journal articles if one is available. It provides a stable and permanent link to the article.

Q: What should I do if I can't find a DOI for an online geographic journal article?

A: If a DOI is not available for an online geographic journal article, you should provide a stable URL that leads directly to the article. Avoid using generic or session-dependent URLs.

Q: How do I cite a geographic journal article with no page numbers, perhaps one published online-only?

A: If an online-only geographic journal article lacks traditional page numbers, you may omit them. However, if the article has section or paragraph numbers, you should cite those. Refer to the specific edition of CMOS for the most up-to-date guidance on this scenario.

Q: Should I use quotation marks around the title of a geographic journal article in Chicago style?

A: Yes, in both the notes-bibliography and author-date systems, the titles of individual articles from geographic journals are enclosed in quotation marks.

Q: How is the journal title formatted when citing a geographic journal article in Chicago style?

A: The title of the geographic journal itself is always italicized in both the notes-bibliography and author-date systems.

Q: What is the correct order of elements for a geographic journal article citation in the author-date reference list?

A: In the author-date system's reference list, the typical order is: Author's Last Name, First Name. Year. "Article Title." Journal Title Volume (Issue): Page range. DOI/URL.

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