

chicago note citation examples

Chicago Note Citation Examples: A Comprehensive Guide

Chicago note citation examples are crucial for academic integrity and clear communication in a variety of scholarly disciplines. Understanding how to properly cite sources using the Notes and Bibliography system, often referred to as Chicago style, ensures that your readers can trace your research and avoid plagiarism. This guide will delve into the intricacies of Chicago style footnotes and endnotes, providing clear examples for various source types, from books and journal articles to websites and interviews. We will explore the fundamental components of a Chicago note citation, including author, title, publication details, and page numbers, and demonstrate how to adapt these for different media. Mastering these citation examples is an essential skill for any student, researcher, or writer engaging with the Chicago Manual of Style.

Table of Contents

Understanding the Basics of Chicago Notes

Citing Books in Chicago Notes

Citing Journal Articles in Chicago Notes

Citing Websites and Online Resources in Chicago Notes

Citing Other Source Types in Chicago Notes

Common Citation Challenges and Solutions

Understanding the Basics of Chicago Notes

The Chicago Manual of Style offers two primary citation systems: the Notes and Bibliography system and the Author-Date system. This article focuses exclusively on the Notes and Bibliography system, which uses numbered footnotes or endnotes to cite sources. Each note corresponds to a superscript number placed within the text of your paper. These notes provide a concise citation for the source and, if applicable, a page number where the information can be found. The full bibliographic details for each source are then listed in a bibliography at the end of the work. Understanding the placement of these superscript numbers and the structure of the notes themselves is the foundational step to accurate Chicago note citation.

The Structure of a Chicago Footnote/Endnote

A typical Chicago footnote or endnote includes specific elements presented in a particular order. The first time a source is cited, the note will be more detailed, including the author's full name, the full title of the work (italicized), publication information (city, publisher, year), and the specific page number(s) referenced. Subsequent citations of the same source become abbreviated, often including just the author's last name, a shortened version of the title, and the page number. This consistent structure ensures that readers can quickly identify the source of information.

The Role of the Bibliography

While footnotes and endnotes provide immediate source identification, the bibliography serves as a comprehensive list of all sources consulted and cited in the paper. The bibliographic entry for a given source will often contain more information than the initial note, providing a complete overview for your readers. For instance, a book in the bibliography will list the author's full name, the full title, the city of publication, the publisher, and the year of publication, but it will not include specific page numbers unless the source is a chapter or essay within a larger edited volume.

Citing Books in Chicago Notes

Citing books is a common requirement for academic papers, and Chicago style provides clear guidelines for doing so. The format for a book citation in a Chicago note differs slightly from its entry in the bibliography, particularly regarding the author's name and punctuation. Proper formatting ensures that your readers can easily locate the original source.

First Citation of a Book

When you cite a book for the first time in your Chicago note citation, you must provide a complete citation. This includes the author's full name, the book's title in italics, followed by the publication details and the specific page number.

Here is an example of a first citation of a book in a footnote:

1. Michel Foucault, *Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison*, trans. Alan Sheridan (New York: Vintage Books, 1995), 23.

Note the commas separating the elements and the period at the end. The translator is included if the work is a translation.

Subsequent Citations of a Book

After the first full citation, subsequent references to the same book are shortened. This makes the notes less repetitive and easier to read. You typically use the author's last name, a shortened version of the title (if the title is long or there are multiple works by the same author), and the relevant page number.

Here is an example of a subsequent citation of the same book:

2. Foucault, *Discipline and Punish*, 112.

If the title is very short or there is no ambiguity, you might omit the title altogether, but

it's generally good practice to include at least a shortened title.

Citing a Chapter or Essay in an Edited Book

When citing a specific chapter or essay within a larger edited collection, you need to include the author of the chapter, the title of the chapter (in quotation marks), the editor(s) of the collection, the title of the collection (in italics), and then the usual publication information and page numbers.

Here is an example:

3. Edward Said, "Orientalism Reconsidered," in *Orientalism's Interlocutors: Advocacy, Ambivalence, Hospitality*, ed. Timothy Mitchell (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2000), 45.

The bibliographic entry for this would be similar but would typically list the page range for the entire chapter or essay.

Citing Journal Articles in Chicago Notes

Journal articles are a staple of academic research, and their citation in Chicago style requires specific attention to detail, including the journal title, volume, issue number, and date. Accurate Chicago note citation for journal articles ensures proper attribution for scholarly work.

First Citation of a Journal Article

For the first citation of a journal article, you'll need the author's name, the article title in quotation marks, the journal title in italics, the volume and issue numbers, the year of publication, and the specific page number.

Here is an example:

4. Judith Butler, "Performative Acts and Gender Constitution: Early Modern Constructions of Sexuality," *Theatre Journal* 40, no. 4 (1988): 520.

The formatting of the volume and issue number can vary slightly depending on the journal's conventions, but the above format is standard.

Subsequent Citations of a Journal Article

Similar to books, subsequent citations of the same journal article are abbreviated. You use the author's last name, a shortened article title if necessary, and the page number.

Here is an example:

5. Butler, "Performative Acts," 525.

Again, if the title is very short or there's no risk of confusion, you might omit it.

Citing Websites and Online Resources in Chicago Notes

The digital age has introduced a proliferation of online sources, and Chicago style provides guidelines for citing them. This can be more complex due to the varying nature of web content. Understanding how to cite websites is essential for contemporary research.

Citing a Web Page

When citing a general web page, include the author or organization responsible for the content, the title of the page, the website's name, and the URL. It is also crucial to include the date the page was accessed.

Here is an example:

6. "The History of the Chicago Public Library," Chicago Public Library, accessed March 15, 2023, <https://www.chipublib.org/about/history/>.

If an author is not clearly identified, you start with the title of the page or the name of the organization.

Citing an Online Journal Article (with DOI)

If a journal article is available online and has a Digital Object Identifier (DOI), it's preferable to use the DOI in your citation. This provides a persistent link to the article.

Here is an example:

7. Jane Doe, "The Impact of Social Media on Political Discourse," *Journal of Digital Studies* 15, no. 2 (2021): 78, doi:10.1080/12345678.2021.987654.

If no DOI is available, you would use the URL as with other web pages, along with the access date.

Citing an Online Book

If you are citing an e-book or a book found online, the citation will resemble that of a print book but will include information about the digital format or URL.

Here is an example:

8. George Orwell, *Nineteen Eighty-Four*, accessed March 15, 2023, <https://www.gutenberg.org/files/50/50-h/50-h.htm>.

This example assumes it's a freely available online version; for e-books accessed through a library database, the format might differ slightly.

Citing Other Source Types in Chicago Notes

Beyond books and articles, academic research often draws from a variety of other sources, including interviews, newspapers, and unpublished materials. Chicago style offers specific formats for these as well, ensuring comprehensive Chicago note citation practices.

Citing an Interview

When citing an interview, include the interviewee's name, the type of interview (e.g., "personal interview," "interview by phone"), the date of the interview, and any relevant location information.

Here is an example:

9. Maria Rodriguez, personal interview, April 10, 2022, Chicago, IL.

If the interview has been published or is accessible online, the citation will adapt to reflect those details.

Citing a Newspaper Article

For newspaper articles, include the author (if known), the article title, the newspaper title in italics, the date of publication, and the page number.

Here is an example:

10. John Smith, "City Council Debates New Zoning Laws," *Chicago Tribune*, March 14, 2023, A1.

For online newspaper articles, you would include the URL and access date, similar to other web sources.

Citing Unpublished Dissertations or Theses

Unpublished scholarly work, such as dissertations, requires specific citation details including the author, the title of the work, the degree sought, the university, and the year.

Here is an example:

11. Emily Chen, "The Evolution of Urban Green Spaces" (PhD diss., University of Chicago, 2021), 150.

If the dissertation is available through a database like ProQuest, you would include that information as well.

Common Citation Challenges and Solutions

Navigating Chicago note citation can present occasional challenges, particularly with less common source types or when dealing with works that lack standard publication information. Anticipating these issues and knowing the correct approach can save considerable time and ensure accuracy.

Works with No Author

When a source, such as a webpage or a report, does not have a clearly identified author, you begin the citation with the title of the work. If it's a corporate or organizational author, use the organization's name.

12. "Guide to Citation Styles," Academic Writing Center, accessed March 15, 2023, <https://writingcenter.example.edu/citation>.

Works with Multiple Authors

For works with two authors, list both in the note. For three or more authors, list the first author followed by "et al." in the note, but list all authors in the bibliography.

13. Sarah Lee and David Kim, *Modern Interpretations of Classical Texts* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2019), 45.

14. Anya Sharma et al., *The Future of Artificial Intelligence* (Cambridge: MIT Press, 2022), 188.

Understanding the Difference Between Notes and

Bibliography

It is crucial to remember that the Chicago note citation is typically more concise than its corresponding bibliography entry. Notes often use abbreviations for subsequent citations, and the order of elements like author's name (first name first in notes, last name first in bibliography) can differ. Always consult the latest edition of *The Chicago Manual of Style* for definitive guidance, as rules can be nuanced.

FAQ

Q: What is the primary difference between a footnote and an endnote in Chicago style?

A: In the Notes and Bibliography system of Chicago style, both footnotes and endnotes serve the same purpose: to cite sources. The difference lies solely in their placement. Footnotes appear at the bottom of the page where the citation is made, while endnotes are gathered together at the end of the document, before the bibliography.

Q: How do I cite a website if there is no clear author listed?

A: If a website lacks a specific author, you begin the citation with the title of the web page. If the page is part of a larger website with a clearly identified organization or institution responsible for its content, you can use that as the author if no individual author is credited.

Q: What is a DOI and why is it important for citing online journal articles?

A: A DOI (Digital Object Identifier) is a unique string of characters used to identify an electronic document or publication. It is important for citing online journal articles because it provides a persistent and stable link to the article, meaning it is less likely to break than a regular URL.

Q: How do I handle citing multiple works by the same author in Chicago notes?

A: When citing multiple works by the same author, the first note for each work should be a full citation. For subsequent notes, if you are citing more than one work by the same author, you should use a shortened title to distinguish between them. For example, "Author, Shortened Title, page."

Q: What information should be included for a translated book in Chicago notes?

A: For a translated book, you must include the translator's name in the citation. The format is generally: Author's Full Name, Title of Book, trans. Translator's Full Name (City of Publication: Publisher, Year), page number.

Q: How do I cite a legal document using Chicago style?

A: Citing legal documents in Chicago style has its own specialized set of rules, often differing from standard academic citations. It's advisable to consult a legal citation guide or the specific guidelines provided by your institution or publisher if you are working with legal sources.

Q: What is the rule for citing works with three or more authors in Chicago notes?

A: For works with three or more authors, you list the first author's full name followed by "et al." in the footnote or endnote. In the bibliography, however, you should list all authors.

Q: When do I use quotation marks versus italics in Chicago note citations?

A: Generally, titles of standalone works like books, journals, newspapers, and websites are italicized. Titles of shorter works that are part of a larger whole, such as articles within journals, chapters in books, or individual web pages, are enclosed in quotation marks.

Q: How do I cite a source that I found indirectly, meaning I read it in another author's work?

A: If you are citing a source that you found mentioned in another source (an indirect citation), you should cite the secondary source in your note. For example: Author of original work, Title of Original Work (Year), quoted in Author of secondary work, Title of Secondary Work (Year), page number. However, it is always best practice to find and cite the original source if possible.

[Chicago Note Citation Examples](#)

Chicago Note Citation Examples

Related Articles

- [chicago manual thesis formatting](#)
- [chicago style appendices formatting](#)
- [chicago manual style journal formatting](#)

[Back to Home](#)