

chicago style endnotes for art papers

The Chicago Manual of Style, often referred to as CMS, is a widely respected citation style that provides a comprehensive framework for academic writing, particularly in the humanities. When tackling art papers, understanding and correctly implementing Chicago style endnotes is paramount for academic integrity and clear scholarly communication. This guide will delve deep into the intricacies of creating Chicago style endnotes for art papers, covering everything from basic principles to specific examples for various source types commonly encountered in art history and criticism. We will explore the fundamental differences between notes and bibliography entries, the components of a typical endnote, and the unique considerations for citing visual art. Furthermore, we will examine how to handle different types of sources such as books, articles, exhibition catalogues, and online resources, ensuring your art papers meet the highest standards of scholarly convention. Mastering Chicago style endnotes will not only enhance the credibility of your research but also empower you to effectively present your arguments and acknowledge the work of others.

Table of Contents

Understanding Chicago Style Endnotes for Art Papers

The Anatomy of a Chicago Style Endnote

Citing Visual Art in Chicago Style Endnotes

Common Source Types and Their Chicago Style Endnote Formatting

Books

Journal Articles

Exhibition Catalogues

Online Resources

Websites and Webpages

Special Cases and Advanced Formatting

Maintaining Consistency and Avoiding Common Errors

The Importance of the Bibliography in Chicago Style

Understanding Chicago Style Endnotes for Art Papers

The Chicago Manual of Style offers two primary citation systems: the author-date system and the notes-bibliography system. For art papers, the notes-bibliography system, which utilizes endnotes (or footnotes), is generally preferred. This system is particularly advantageous for art history and criticism as it allows for detailed commentary and extensive citation within the body of the text without disrupting the flow of the prose. Endnotes provide a space to offer supplementary information, elaborate on a point, or cite multiple sources for a single assertion, all while keeping the main text concise and readable. The fundamental principle is to provide readers with sufficient information to locate the original source of your ideas or factual claims.

Endnotes are numbered sequentially throughout your paper and correspond to a numbered note at the end of your document, before the bibliography. Each note typically includes the author's name, the title of the work, publication details, and specific page numbers. The first citation of a source in the endnote section for a particular work is

usually a full citation, while subsequent citations of the same work are abbreviated. This distinction is crucial for clarity and efficiency. Understanding these core principles is the first step towards mastering Chicago style endnotes for art papers.

The Anatomy of a Chicago Style Endnote

A typical Chicago style endnote for an art paper is constructed with specific elements in a particular order. While variations exist depending on the source type, the general structure remains consistent. The primary goal is to provide enough detail for a reader to identify and retrieve the cited material. Understanding the components of an endnote allows for accurate application across diverse art-related sources.

Essential Components of a Note

The core elements of a Chicago style endnote include:

- **Author's Name:** First name followed by last name.
- **Title of the Work:** Italicized for books and exhibition catalogues; enclosed in quotation marks for articles or chapters.
- **Publication Information:** For books, this includes the city of publication, publisher, and year. For articles, it includes the journal name (italicized), volume, issue number, and date.
- **Page Numbers:** The specific page(s) where the information is found.

The formatting of each component is critical. For instance, commas, periods, and parentheses are used in specific ways to separate these elements. Pay close attention to these details to ensure adherence to the Chicago Manual of Style. Errors in punctuation or order can lead to misinterpretations or indicate a lack of scholarly rigor.

First vs. Subsequent Citations

The first time a source is cited in your endnotes, you will provide a full bibliographic entry. This ensures the reader has all necessary information to locate the source. For example, a book might be cited as:

1. Carol Strickland, *The Annotated Mona Lisa: A Crash Course in Art History from Ancient to Modern* (Kansas City, MO: Andrews McMeel Publishing, 1999), 15.

Subsequent citations of the same source will use a shortened form, typically including the author's last name, a shortened title (if necessary to distinguish from other works by the same author), and the page number. For example:

2. Strickland, *Annotated Mona Lisa*, 45.

If citing a different work by the same author, a slightly longer shortened title may be required. This distinction between full and shortened notes is a hallmark of the Chicago notes-bibliography system for efficient referencing.

Citing Visual Art in Chicago Style Endnotes

Citing artworks themselves, whether paintings, sculptures, photographs, or installations, requires special attention within Chicago style endnotes for art papers. The goal is to clearly identify the artwork and its creator, and to provide information about its current location or where it was encountered by the author.

Key Elements for Citing Artworks

When citing a specific artwork, consider including the following information:

- Artist's Name: Full name.
- Title of the Artwork: Italicized.
- Date of Creation: As precise as possible (e.g., "ca. 1600," "1969").
- Medium: (e.g., oil on canvas, bronze, gelatin silver print).
- Dimensions: (e.g., 72 x 50 cm).
- Collection or Location: Where the artwork is housed (museum, private collection, etc.).
- Accession Number: If available.
- Page Number: If the artwork is reproduced in a book or article.

For instance, an endnote for an artwork encountered in a book might look like this:

3. Vincent van Gogh, *The Starry Night*, 1889, oil on canvas, 73.7 x 92.1 cm, Museum of Modern Art, New York, acc. no. 1941.150. Cited in Robert Hughes, *American Visions: The Epic History of Art in America* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1997), 312.

If you are citing an artwork you viewed in person, you would omit the book citation and simply provide the details of the artwork and its location.

Common Source Types and Their Chicago Style Endnote Formatting

Art papers often draw from a variety of sources, each requiring specific formatting for Chicago style endnotes. Understanding these nuances ensures accuracy and completeness in your citations.

Books

When citing a book in Chicago style endnotes, the author's name, title (italicized), publication city, publisher, and year are essential. Page numbers for the specific

information cited are also critical. For example:

4. Svetlana Alpers, *The Art of Describing: Dutch Art in the Seventeenth Century* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1983), 78.

Subsequent citations of this book would be shortened, for example:

5. Alpers, *Art of Describing*, 95.

If the book has multiple authors or editors, follow the specific guidelines for those scenarios in the Chicago Manual of Style.

Journal Articles

Journal articles are cited with the author's name, the article title (in quotation marks), the journal name (italicized), volume and issue numbers, publication date, and page numbers. An example of a first-time citation for a journal article:

6. T.J. Clark, "The Subject of Art History: Looking at Ingres," *Critical Inquiry* 24, no. 3 (Spring 1998): 497.

Subsequent citations would be abbreviated, such as:

7. Clark, "Subject of Art History," 502.

Exhibition Catalogues

Exhibition catalogues are a crucial resource for art history. They are typically cited like books, but with the title in italics and often including details about the exhibition itself, such as the host institution and dates. If the catalogue includes essays by different authors, you may cite the specific essay or the catalogue as a whole.

8. Kirk Varnedoe, "Abstract Expressionism," in *High and Low: Modern Art and Popular Culture*, exh. cat., Museum of Modern Art, New York (1990), 288.

If you are citing the entire catalogue and not a specific essay, you would format it similarly to a book, potentially including the exhibition dates and venue.

Online Resources

Citing online resources, including digital archives, museum websites, and online articles, requires careful attention to the URL and access date. The goal is to provide enough information for the reader to find the resource, recognizing that online content can change.

Websites and Webpages

When citing a webpage, include the author (if known), the title of the specific page, the name of the website (italicized), and the URL, followed by the date you accessed it. For example:

9. Jonathan Jones, "The Scream: A Masterpiece of Modernity," *The Guardian*, September 7, 2003, <https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2003/sep/07/art.edvardmunch>.

If the author is not listed, you might begin with the title of the page or the name of the organization responsible for the website.

Special Cases and Advanced Formatting

Beyond the standard source types, Chicago style endnotes for art papers may require adjustments for less common scenarios. These can include citing interviews, lecture notes, or artworks found in online collections without specific page numbers.

Interviews and Personal Communications

For interviews you conducted, cite the interviewee's name, the type of communication (e.g., "interview by author"), and the date. If it's a recorded interview, provide details about the recording. For published interviews:

10. Rosalind Krauss, interview by Sarah Greenough, October 12, 2005, transcript, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

Lecture Notes and Unpublished Materials

If you are citing notes from a lecture or unpublished material, provide as much detail as possible about the source, including the lecturer's name, course title, and date for lectures, or the creator and description for unpublished documents.

11. John Berger, lecture, "Ways of Seeing," Art History 101, New York University, March 15, 2023.

Maintaining Consistency and Avoiding Common Errors

The key to successful Chicago style endnotes for art papers lies in meticulous attention to detail and unwavering consistency. A single error or inconsistency can undermine the credibility of your entire paper. Regularly cross-referencing with the Chicago Manual of Style is highly recommended.

Consistency is Key

Ensure that the formatting for identical source types is identical throughout your paper. If you abbreviate a title in one note, do so consistently for all subsequent notes of that source. Maintain the same capitalization, punctuation, and italicization conventions for all entries. This uniformity signals a professional and careful approach to scholarly work.

Common Pitfalls to Avoid

Several common errors can creep into endnotes. These include:

- Incorrect punctuation: Misplaced commas, periods, or the absence of necessary italics.
- Inconsistent use of full vs. shortened notes: Forgetting to shorten subsequent citations or shortening the first citation incorrectly.

- Missing or incorrect page numbers: Failing to provide the specific page where the information was found.
- Improper formatting of artwork citations: Omitting essential details like the medium or dimensions.
- Citing unreliable online sources without proper justification or critical evaluation.

Proofreading your endnotes with the same diligence you apply to the main body of your paper is essential. Reading your endnotes aloud can help catch awkward phrasing or missing information.

The Importance of the Bibliography in Chicago Style

While endnotes provide the granular detail for specific citations, the bibliography serves as a comprehensive list of all sources consulted and cited in your art paper. It is typically placed at the end of the document, after the endnotes. The bibliography is alphabetized by author's last name and provides a complete overview of the research undertaken.

Each entry in the bibliography corresponds to a full citation found in the endnotes, though the formatting can differ slightly. For example, in the bibliography, the author's last name typically comes first, followed by the first name, whereas in endnotes, it's first name then last name. This organization allows readers to quickly identify and access the full range of resources used in your research, further enhancing the transparency and scholarly rigor of your art paper. The interconnectedness of endnotes and the bibliography is fundamental to the Chicago style's effectiveness.

FAQ

Q: What is the primary difference between footnotes and endnotes in Chicago style for art papers?

A: The primary difference lies in their placement. Footnotes appear at the bottom of the page where the citation is made, while endnotes are compiled at the end of the document, before the bibliography. For art papers, endnotes are generally preferred as they keep the main text cleaner and allow for more extensive commentary without interruption.

Q: How do I cite a specific painting by an artist in Chicago style endnotes?

A: To cite a painting, include the artist's full name, the title of the artwork (italicized), the year of creation, the medium, dimensions, and the current location (museum or collection) and accession number if available. If the artwork is reproduced in a source, also include the citation for that source and the relevant page number.

Q: What information is essential for citing a journal article in Chicago style endnotes for an art paper?

A: For a journal article, you need the author's full name, the article's title (in quotation marks), the journal's title (italicized), the volume and issue numbers, the publication date, and the specific page number(s) where the information appears.

Q: When citing an exhibition catalogue, should I cite the entire catalogue or a specific essay within it?

A: You should cite the specific essay if you are referencing its content. The citation would include the essay author, essay title (in quotation marks), "in," the exhibition catalogue title (italicized), the exhibition details (venue, dates), and the page number. If you are referencing the catalogue as a whole, you would cite it more like a book.

Q: How do I handle citing online museum collections in Chicago style endnotes for art papers?

A: When citing an artwork from an online museum collection, include the artist's name, artwork title, creation date, medium, dimensions, museum name, and the URL. Crucially, include the date you accessed the webpage.

Q: Is it acceptable to use shortened titles for subsequent citations of the same artwork in Chicago style endnotes?

A: Yes, after the first full citation of an artwork, subsequent citations can use a shortened form. This typically includes the artist's last name, a shortened title of the artwork, and the relevant page number from the source where it was encountered.

Q: What is the purpose of the bibliography in Chicago style, in addition to endnotes?

A: The bibliography provides a complete, alphabetized list of all sources cited in the paper. While endnotes offer specific citations for individual claims, the bibliography allows readers to quickly see the breadth of research and easily locate all the consulted materials.

Q: How does the formatting for a book differ from an exhibition catalogue in Chicago style endnotes?

A: Both are generally treated similarly, with titles italicized. However, exhibition catalogues often include specific details about the exhibition itself, such as the host

institution, city, and dates, which are not typically part of a standard book citation unless it's a collection of essays from a conference.

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