

chicago style sociology paper reference guide examples

chicago style sociology paper reference guide examples are crucial for academic integrity and clear communication in sociological research. Mastering this citation style ensures that your work is properly attributed, allowing readers to locate your sources and verify your claims. This comprehensive guide delves into the intricacies of Chicago style for sociology papers, providing detailed explanations and practical examples for various source types. We will cover the fundamental principles of Chicago style, including the distinction between notes-bibliography and author-date systems, and offer specific examples for common academic materials such as books, journal articles, websites, and more. Understanding these elements is paramount for any student or researcher aiming to produce polished and credible sociological scholarship.

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Understanding Chicago Style for Sociology Papers

Chicago style, also known as the Chicago Manual of Style (CMOS), offers two primary citation systems: the notes-bibliography system and the author-date system. For sociology papers, the choice between these often depends on the specific requirements of your instructor, department, or publisher. Both systems aim to provide clear and consistent citation practices, ensuring that all borrowed material is properly credited. Sociological research, with its reliance on diverse data and theoretical frameworks, benefits greatly from a rigorous citation method that facilitates transparency and reproducibility.

The notes-bibliography system utilizes footnotes or endnotes for in-text citations and a comprehensive bibliography at the end of the paper. This system is often favored in humanities and some social sciences, allowing for detailed explanations or supplementary information within the notes themselves. The author-date system, on the other hand, uses parenthetical in-text citations that include the author's last name and the publication year, followed by a reference list at the end. This method is common in scientific disciplines and social sciences where a quick glance at the date of

publication is often important for contextualizing research.

The Notes-Bibliography System

The notes-bibliography system is characterized by its use of numbered notes, either footnotes at the bottom of the page or endnotes at the conclusion of the text. Each note corresponds to a superscript number within the text, indicating a citation or additional commentary. The bibliography then lists all the sources cited in the notes, alphabetized by author's last name.

In-Text Citations (Notes)

When you introduce information from a source for the first time, the note should be a full citation. Subsequent references to the same source can be shortened. This allows for detailed engagement with sources without disrupting the flow of the main text.

- First reference (full note):
- Subsequent references (shortened note):

Bibliography Entries

The bibliography is a list of all sources consulted and cited in the paper. It provides full bibliographic information for each entry, alphabetized by author's last name. This section is critical for readers who wish to explore the foundational research supporting your arguments.

The Author-Date System

The author-date system is often preferred in the natural sciences and some social sciences, including sociology, for its conciseness. In-text citations directly reference the author's last name and the publication year, which allows readers to immediately gauge the timeliness of the information. This is particularly useful in fields that evolve rapidly.

In-Text Citations (Author-Date)

Parenthetical citations appear within the text, immediately following the borrowed material. They typically include the author's last name and the year of publication. Page numbers are often included for direct quotes.

- Example with author and year: (Smith 2020)
- Example with author, year, and page number for a quote: (Smith 2020, 45)

Reference List Entries

The reference list, similar to a bibliography, contains all the sources cited in the text. Entries are alphabetized by author's last name. The key difference from the bibliography in the notes-bibliography system is that the author-date system's reference list typically omits publication details for notes and focuses on providing the necessary information for locating the source based on author and date.

Citing Books in Chicago Style

Books are a foundational source for sociological research. Proper citation ensures that readers can find the specific editions and information you utilized. The formatting for books varies slightly between the notes-bibliography and author-date systems, but the core elements remain the same.

Books with One Author (Notes-Bibliography)

For the notes-bibliography system, the first footnote or endnote will include the author's full name, the title of the book (*italicized*), the city of publication, the publisher, and the year of publication. Page numbers are crucial for specific references.

- Full Note: John H. Goldthorpe, *Social Mobility and Class Structure in Contemporary Britain* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1980), 112.
- Shortened Note: Goldthorpe, *Social Mobility*, 150.
- Bibliography Entry: Goldthorpe, John H. *Social Mobility and Class Structure in Contemporary Britain*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1980.

Books with One Author (Author-Date)

In the author-date system, the in-text citation is brief, and the reference list entry provides all necessary details for retrieval. The reference list entry includes the author's last name first, followed by the title, publication city, publisher, and year.

- In-Text Citation: (Goldthorpe 1980, 112)
- Reference List Entry: Goldthorpe, John H. 1980. *Social Mobility and Class Structure in Contemporary Britain*. Oxford: Clarendon Press.

Books with Multiple Authors

When citing books with two or three authors, list all authors in the note or reference. For four or more authors, list the first author followed by "et al." in notes and the full list in the bibliography or reference list, depending on the system used.

- Notes-Bibliography (First Note): Pierre Bourdieu and Jean-Claude Passeron, *The Inheritors: French Students and Their Relation to Culture*, trans. Richard Nice (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1979), 33.
- Author-Date (Reference List): Bourdieu, Pierre, and Jean-Claude Passeron. 1979. *The Inheritors: French Students and Their Relation to Culture*. Translated by Richard Nice. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Edited Books

For edited books, the editor's name is used instead of the author's in the primary citation element. The format reflects the role of the editor in compiling the work.

- Notes-Bibliography (Bibliography Entry): Sayer, Andrew, ed. *Social Movements and Social Issues*. London: Macmillan, 1981.
- Author-Date (Reference List Entry): Sayer, Andrew, ed. 1981. *Social Movements and Social Issues*. London: Macmillan.

Citing Journal Articles in Chicago Style

Journal articles are a vital component of contemporary sociological discourse, offering insights into the latest research findings and theoretical debates. Accurate citation is essential for acknowledging the work of other scholars.

Journal Articles (Notes-Bibliography)

For the notes-bibliography system, the full note includes the author(s), the title of the article (in quotation marks), the name of the journal (*italicized*), the volume and issue number, the year of publication, and the page numbers where the article appears. For online journals, DOI or URL information should also be included.

- Full Note: Robert J. Sampson, "What Works in Community Violence Prevention?" *Social Justice* 26, no. 1 (1999): 55.
- Shortened Note: Sampson, "What Works in Community Violence Prevention?" 62.
- Bibliography Entry: Sampson, Robert J. "What Works in Community Violence Prevention?" *Social Justice* 26, no. 1 (1999): 55-72.

Journal Articles (Author-Date)

In the author-date system, the in-text citation is concise, and the reference list entry provides the full details. The reference list entry follows a structured format with author, year, article title, journal title, volume, issue, and page numbers.

- In-Text Citation: (Sampson 1999, 55)
- Reference List Entry: Sampson, Robert J. 1999. "What Works in Community Violence Prevention?" *Social Justice* 26 (1): 55-72.

Online Journal Articles

When citing journal articles accessed online, it is important to include information that allows the reader to retrieve the article. This typically involves a DOI (Digital Object Identifier) if available, or the URL.

- Notes-Bibliography (Full Note): Nancy Fraser, "Feminism, Capitalism, and the Care Crisis," *Foreign Affairs* 99, no. 3 (2020): 120, accessed October 26, 2023, <https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/world/2020-05-19/feminism-capitalism-and-care-crisis>.
- Author-Date (Reference List Entry): Fraser, Nancy. 2020. "Feminism, Capitalism, and the Care Crisis." *Foreign Affairs* 99 (3): 120-128. Accessed October 26, 2023. <https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/world/2020-05-19/feminism-capitalism-and-care-crisis>

Citing Websites and Online Sources in Chicago Style

The internet has become an indispensable resource for sociological research, providing access to reports, data, news articles, and more. Citing online sources requires careful attention to detail to ensure they are locatable and verifiable.

Webpages (Notes-Bibliography)

For a standard webpage, a full note should include the author (if available), the title of the page (in quotation marks), the name of the website (*italicized*), and the URL. The date of access is also important, as online content can change or be removed.

- Full Note: Pew Research Center, "How Different Demographics Say They Get Their News," accessed October 26, 2023, <https://www.pewresearch.org/journalism/2023/01/18/how-different-demographics-say-they-get-their-news/>.
- Bibliography Entry: Pew Research Center. "How Different Demographics Say They Get Their News." Accessed October 26, 2023. <https://www.pewresearch.org/journalism/2023/01/18/how-different-demographics-say-they-get-their-news/>.

Webpages (Author-Date)

In the author-date system, the in-text citation will include the author or organizational author and the date of publication if available. If no specific publication date is given, "n.d." (no date) is used.

- In-Text Citation: (Pew Research Center, n.d.)
- Reference List Entry: Pew Research Center. n.d. "How Different Demographics Say They Get Their News." Accessed October 26, 2023. <https://www.pewresearch.org/journalism/2023/01/18/how-different-demographics-say-they-get-their-news/>.

Reports and Government Documents Online

Citing reports and government documents often involves including the issuing organization and the title of the report. For online versions, the URL is essential.

- Notes-Bibliography (Full Note): U.S. Census Bureau, Income in the United States: 2021, September 2022, <https://www.census.gov/library/publications/2022/demo/p60-276.html>.
- Author-Date (Reference List Entry): U.S. Census Bureau. 2022. Income in the United States: 2021. September. <https://www.census.gov/library/publications/2022/demo/p60-276.html>.

Citing Other Common Sources

Sociological research often draws from a wide array of sources beyond books and journal articles. Understanding how to cite these, such as conference papers, dissertations, and interviews, is crucial for comprehensive referencing.

Dissertations and Theses

Dissertations and theses represent original research and should be cited accurately. The format typically includes the author, title, university, and year.

- Notes-Bibliography (Full Note): Sarah J. Chen, "The Impact of Social Media on Political Polarization" (PhD diss., University of California, Berkeley, 2021), 78.
- Author-Date (Reference List Entry): Chen, Sarah J. 2021. "The Impact of Social Media on Political Polarization." PhD diss., University of California, Berkeley.

Conference Papers

When citing papers presented at academic conferences, ensure you include the author, title, conference name, location, and date.

- Notes-Bibliography (Full Note): David R. Meyer, "Urban Gentrification and Displacement Patterns" (paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Chicago, IL, August 10-13, 2019).

- Author-Date (Reference List Entry): Meyer, David R. 2019. "Urban Gentrification and Displacement Patterns." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Chicago, IL, August 10-13.

Interviews

Personal interviews, whether conducted by the researcher or by others, can be cited. For privacy, often the name of the interviewee is omitted in published works, or consent is required. When citing a personal interview conducted by the author, it is usually noted in the text or in a footnote, but not included in a bibliography unless the interviewee has given permission.

- Notes-Bibliography (Full Note for an interview conducted by the author): Interview with Jane Doe, sociologist, by the author, October 25, 2023.
- For interviews published or archived: Refer to the specific format for books or online sources if they are published.

Formatting Your References

Beyond the specific content of each citation, the overall formatting of your bibliography or reference list is vital for presenting a professional and consistent document. Pay close attention to details like indentation, punctuation, and capitalization.

Indentation

Both the bibliography and the reference list employ a hanging indent. This means the first line of each entry is flush with the left margin, and subsequent lines are indented. This formatting makes it easier for readers to scan the list and locate individual entries.

Punctuation and Capitalization

Chicago style has specific rules for punctuation and capitalization within citations. For example, titles of books and journals are italicized, while article and chapter titles are placed in quotation marks. Capitalization of titles generally follows title case.

Consistency is Key

The most important aspect of formatting your references is consistency. Whichever system you use (notes-bibliography or author-date), apply its rules uniformly throughout your paper. Inconsistency can detract from the credibility of your work.

By adhering to these detailed guidelines for Chicago style sociology paper reference guide examples, you can ensure that your research is presented with academic rigor and clarity. A well-formatted reference list not only honors the work of others but also enhances the reader's ability to engage with and verify your findings, contributing to the overall strength and persuasiveness of your sociological analysis.

FAQ Section

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

A: The primary difference lies in how in-text citations are handled. The notes-bibliography system uses footnotes or endnotes for citations, providing more space for elaboration, while the author-date system uses parenthetical citations with the author's name and publication year directly in the text. Both systems conclude with a comprehensive list of sources.

Q: How do I cite a book with an editor in Chicago style?

A: In the notes-bibliography system, the editor's name appears first in the bibliography entry, followed by "ed." or "eds." In the author-date system's reference list, the editor's name is also listed first, followed by "(ed.)" or "(eds.)" and the year. The title of the book follows.

Q: What is the correct way to cite a website in Chicago style if no author is listed?

A: If no author is listed for a website, you should begin the citation with the title of the specific page (in quotation marks) or the name of the organization that publishes the website. Follow this with the website name (*italicized*), the publication date (if available), and the URL. Always include the date of access.

Q: How do I format the bibliography for a Chicago style sociology paper?

A: The bibliography is an alphabetical list of all sources cited in the paper. Each entry uses a hanging indent, meaning the first line is flush left and subsequent lines are indented. The order of information within each entry varies depending on the source type (book, journal article, etc.).

Q: When should I use "et al." in my Chicago style citations?

A: In the notes-bibliography system, "et al." is typically used in short notes and bibliographies for sources with four or more authors. In the author-date system, "et al." is generally used in the in-text citation for sources with three or more authors, but the full list of authors is usually provided in the reference list.

Q: Do I need to include page numbers for direct quotes in the author-date system for Chicago style?

A: Yes, it is essential to include page numbers for direct quotes when using the author-date system. The parenthetical citation will look like (Author Year, Page Number), for example, (Smith 2020, 45).

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

A: A DOI (Digital Object Identifier) is a unique, persistent identifier for an electronic document. It is crucial for citing online journal articles because it provides a stable link that is less likely to break than a standard URL, ensuring readers can reliably access the article. Include it if available.

Q: How do I cite an interview I conducted myself in Chicago style?

A: Personal interviews conducted by the author are typically cited in a footnote or endnote in the notes-bibliography system, and often noted in the text for the author-date system. They are generally not included in the bibliography or reference list unless specific permissions have been obtained, due to privacy considerations.

Q: What is the correct order for citing a book in the Chicago author-date reference list?

A: The Chicago author-date reference list order for a book is: Author Last Name, First Name. Year of Publication. Title of Book. Place of Publication: Publisher. For example: Durkheim, Émile. 1982. The Rules of Sociological Method. Translated by W. D. Halls. New York: Free Press.

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