

citing dissertations chicago style

The comprehensive guide to citing dissertations in Chicago style is an essential resource for any academic researcher. This detailed explanation will navigate you through the nuances of accurately referencing dissertations, whether you are citing a work you authored or one you are using as a source. Understanding the intricacies of Chicago style for dissertations ensures scholarly integrity and proper attribution, crucial elements in academic writing. We will explore the fundamental differences between the notes-bibliography and author-date systems within Chicago style, and how each applies to citing dissertations. Furthermore, this article will provide clear examples and step-by-step instructions for both in-text citations and the bibliography or reference list entries. Mastering the art of citing dissertations Chicago style will enhance the credibility of your research and demonstrate your commitment to academic rigor.

Table of Contents

Understanding Chicago Style for Dissertations

Notes-Bibliography System for Citing Dissertations

Author-Date System for Citing Dissertations

Common Scenarios in Citing Dissertations Chicago Style

Best Practices for Citing Dissertations Chicago Style

Understanding Chicago Style for Dissertations

Chicago style, also known as the Turabian style (though often used interchangeably in practice), offers two primary citation systems: the notes-bibliography system and the author-date system. Both are widely accepted in academic disciplines, but their application to citing dissertations requires careful attention to detail. The fundamental purpose of any citation style is to provide readers with enough information to locate and verify the sources you have consulted, and this is particularly important when dealing with specialized academic works like dissertations.

When citing dissertations, researchers must distinguish between the dissertation as a published or unpublished work, and whether it is available online or in print. These distinctions influence the specific elements required in your citation. The Chicago Manual of Style (CMOS) provides clear guidelines for these variations, ensuring consistency and clarity across academic papers, theses, and dissertations themselves. Familiarizing yourself with these core principles is the first step towards accurate and effective referencing.

Notes-Bibliography System for Citing Dissertations

The notes-bibliography system is characterized by the use of numbered footnotes or endnotes for in-text citations, followed by a comprehensive bibliography at the end of the work. This system is common in the humanities and some social sciences.

Footnote/Endnote Citations for Dissertations

When citing a dissertation for the first time in a footnote or endnote, you will generally include the author's full name, the title of the dissertation (italicized), the degree sought (e.g., Ph.D. dissertation, Master's thesis), the institution that granted the degree, the year of completion, and its location (e.g., the university library or an online database). Subsequent citations of the same source can be shortened.

Example of a First Footnote/Endnote Citation (Unpublished Dissertation):

- John Smith, "The Impact of Social Media on Political Discourse" (Ph.D. dissertation, University of California, Berkeley, 2022), 45.

Example of a Subsequent Footnote/Endnote Citation (Unpublished Dissertation):

- Smith, "Social Media," 78.

Example of a First Footnote/Endnote Citation (Published Dissertation, e.g., ProQuest):

- Jane Doe, "Architectural Innovations of the Renaissance" (Ph.D. dissertation, Harvard University, 2020), ProQuest Dissertations Publishing (AAT 1234567), 112.

It is crucial to include the dissertation identifier (like AAT) if it's available from a database, as this helps in pinpointing the exact version of the work.

Bibliography Entries for Dissertations

The bibliography entry provides a more complete citation of the source. While it includes many of the same elements as the footnote, the order and punctuation differ slightly. Author names are inverted (Last Name, First Name), and the title of the dissertation is

italicized. The degree information follows, along with the institution and year.

Example of a Bibliography Entry (Unpublished Dissertation):

- Smith, John. "The Impact of Social Media on Political Discourse." Ph.D. dissertation, University of California, Berkeley, 2022.

Example of a Bibliography Entry (Published Dissertation, e.g., ProQuest):

- Doe, Jane. "Architectural Innovations of the Renaissance." Ph.D. dissertation, Harvard University, 2020. ProQuest Dissertations Publishing (AAT 1234567).

For dissertations accessed online through university repositories or institutional archives, you would typically include the URL or DOI if readily available and stable.

Author-Date System for Citing Dissertations

The author-date system uses parenthetical in-text citations that include the author's last name and the year of publication, followed by a reference list at the end of the paper. This system is more common in the sciences and some social sciences.

In-Text Citations for Dissertations

In the author-date system, the in-text citation is brief. It typically includes the author's last name and the year the dissertation was completed, often with a page number. The full details of the source are then provided in the reference list.

Example of an In-Text Citation (Unpublished Dissertation):

- (Smith 2022, 45)

Example of an In-Text Citation (Published Dissertation):

- (Doe 2020, 112)

If the author's name is mentioned in the text, only the year and page number may be needed in parentheses.

Reference List Entries for Dissertations

The reference list consolidates all cited sources. The entry for a dissertation in the author-date system shares many elements with the bibliography entry in the notes-bibliography system, but the primary distinction is the placement of the year immediately after the author's name.

Example of a Reference List Entry (Unpublished Dissertation):

- Smith, John. 2022. "The Impact of Social Media on Political Discourse." Ph.D. dissertation, University of California, Berkeley.

Example of a Reference List Entry (Published Dissertation, e.g., ProQuest):

- Doe, Jane. 2020. "Architectural Innovations of the Renaissance." Ph.D. dissertation, Harvard University. ProQuest Dissertations Publishing (AAT 1234567).

When citing a dissertation available online without a database identifier, the URL or DOI should be included if it's the primary access point.

Common Scenarios in Citing Dissertations Chicago Style

Navigating the citation of dissertations often involves specific scenarios that require careful consideration of the Chicago Manual of Style guidelines. Understanding these common situations can prevent errors and ensure accuracy in your academic work.

Citing a Dissertation Available Online

Dissertations are increasingly accessed through digital repositories. When citing an online dissertation, the key is to provide the most direct and stable access point. If the dissertation is from a recognized database like ProQuest Dissertations Publishing, that information should be included. If it's from an institutional repository or a personal academic website, the URL should be provided.

Example (Notes-Bibliography):

- Mary Jones, "Early Medieval Pottery Techniques" (Ph.D. dissertation, University of Oxford, 2019), 88, accessed [Date Accessed], <http://www.ox.ac.uk/dissertations/jones-pottery>.

Note that the access date is optional in the current edition of CMOS but can be useful if the online source is likely to change or disappear.

Citing a Dissertation as Part of a Larger Work

Occasionally, a dissertation might be published as a book or an article. In such cases, you would cite it according to the format for books or articles, respectively, but still acknowledge its origin as a dissertation. This is less common for the dissertation itself being a direct source but might apply if an excerpt or a published version is what you are referencing.

Citing Your Own Dissertation

When citing your own dissertation, the principles remain the same as citing someone else's. You would follow the appropriate format for the notes-bibliography or author-date system, providing all necessary details about its publication status and location. This ensures that if someone wishes to consult your work, they have the precise information to do so.

Best Practices for Citing Dissertations Chicago Style

Adhering to best practices for citing dissertations Chicago style is crucial for maintaining academic integrity and enhancing the readability of your research. Consistency is

paramount, ensuring that all your citations follow the same rules and format.

- Always consult the most recent edition of *The Chicago Manual of Style* for the most up-to-date guidelines.
- Be meticulous with details: author's name, dissertation title, degree, institution, year, and access information (database, URL, DOI).
- Use italics for dissertation titles.
- Ensure correct punctuation between elements in both footnotes/endnotes and the bibliography/reference list.
- When in doubt, err on the side of providing more information rather than less.
- If a dissertation is available in multiple formats (e.g., print and online), cite the version you actually consulted.

By diligently applying these practices, you can confidently and accurately cite dissertations, bolstering the authority and credibility of your scholarly endeavors.

FAQ

Q: What is the primary difference between citing a published dissertation and an unpublished one in Chicago style?

A: The primary difference lies in the inclusion of publication details. For unpublished dissertations, you clearly state it's a dissertation and provide the institution and year. For published dissertations (e.g., through ProQuest), you include the database name, the dissertation identifier (like AAT), and often the publisher if it's a commercially published book version.

Q: Should I include the access date when citing an online dissertation in Chicago style?

A: According to the latest edition of *The Chicago Manual of Style*, the access date is generally optional for stable online sources. However, it can be useful if the online source is ephemeral or prone to changes. If you choose to include it, place it after the URL.

Q: How do I cite a dissertation that I found through a university library's online portal, but not a commercial database like ProQuest?

A: For dissertations accessed through university digital archives or institutional repositories, you would treat it similarly to an unpublished dissertation but include the URL of the repository. For example: Author, "Dissertation Title" (Degree, Institution, Year), URL.

Q: What information is absolutely essential for citing a dissertation in Chicago style?

A: The essential information includes the author's full name, the complete title of the dissertation (italicized), the type of degree sought (e.g., Ph.D. dissertation, Master's thesis), the name of the institution that granted the degree, and the year the degree was conferred. Access information (database or URL) is also critical for online sources.

Q: Can I use the same citation format for a Master's thesis and a Doctoral dissertation in Chicago style?

A: Yes, the general format for citing a Master's thesis is the same as for a Doctoral dissertation. The key is to specify the degree sought, whether it's a Master's thesis or a Ph.D. dissertation, within the citation.

Q: When citing a dissertation in the notes-bibliography system, how does the first footnote differ from subsequent ones?

A: The first footnote or endnote citation for a dissertation is a full citation, including all necessary elements. Subsequent citations of the same source are shortened, typically including the author's last name, a shortened version of the title (if necessary), and the page number.

Q: How do I handle citing a dissertation that has been published as a book by a commercial publisher?

A: If a dissertation has been published as a book, you cite it as a book, not as a dissertation. Include the author's name, the book title (italicized), the publisher, and the year of publication. However, you might still note its origin as a dissertation in a footnote if it's relevant to your argument, but the primary citation becomes that of the published book.

Q: What is the significance of the dissertation identifier (e.g., AAT number) in Chicago style citations?

A: The dissertation identifier, commonly found in databases like ProQuest, serves as a unique accession number that helps readers locate the precise version of the dissertation. Including it in your citation, especially for published dissertations, is highly recommended for clarity and verifiability.

[Citing Dissertations Chicago Style](#)

Citing Dissertations Chicago Style

Related Articles

- [chromosome abnormalities symptoms](#)
- [cholesterol and kidney disease heart health](#)
- [chord progressions for songwriters](#)

[Back to Home](#)