

# Referencing Style Guide for Internet and Electronic Sources

**Acknowledgement** *The concept as well as most of the text and examples of this document has been copied, with the permission of the authors, from the following websites:*

Citation Style Guides for Internet and Electronic Sources. University of Alberta Libraries. [no longer available on the WWW]

ONLINE! [no longer available on the WWW]

References/Bibliography, Vancouver Style: quick guide - how to use it. University of Queensland, Cybrary. <http://www.library.uq.edu.au/training/citation/vancouv.html>

Referencing using the Harvard system (author-date system) University of South Australia, Learning Connection. [no longer available on the WWW]

## Introduction

Internet and electronic information, with or without print equivalents, presents new challenges to scholars. Although a definitive standard for the citation of these resources has yet to emerge, there are now several printed guides and Internet sites which can provide guidance. This guide is an attempt to explain the basic principles and to give examples in the three referencing styles which are mostly used on the University of Pretoria campus: **Harvard**, **Vancouver** and **APA**. Comments are very welcome.

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## 1. Major Types of Electronic Sources

Most style authorities classify electronic sources into two major types: **online sources** and **other electronic sources**.

**Online sources** may include:

- World Wide Web sites
- Full text databases
- E-Mail
- Listservs
- Newsgroups
- Synchronous Communications sites (Blogs, Wikis, MOOs, MUDs, Chats)

**Other electronic sources** may include:

- CD-ROMs
- diskettes
- magnetic tapes
- other portable computer databases

## 2. Reference/Citation Components and Examples

As more information becomes available on the Internet and in electronic form, some standardization of citation formats is necessary in order to provide accurate references to authorship and to facilitate access to the sources. The style authorities have various approaches to the citation of electronic sources and, in general, there is little agreement among them. However, there are two principles emerging to which all authorities appear to adhere: **1) provide as much information as possible concerning the authorship and the availability of the sources, and 2) if there is no specific guideline for a particular electronic source, draw an analogy to a relevant print source guideline.**

*In the case of sources that may be subject to change, such as websites which may change or CD-ROMS that are updated during the year, it is important to acknowledge the date the information was accessed.*

### 3. Referencing/Citing of References Retrieved from Online Databases and the Web based on the Harvard Style

#### A. Sources from databases with **limited access**, such as ScienceDirect, Proquest, Academic Search Elite, Emerald, Web of Science, AGRICOLA, etc.

<b>Journal article</b>	Brown, JS 2002, 'Research that invents the corporation' <i>Harvard Business Review</i> , vol. 80, issue 8, pp. 105-106, viewed 14 July 2003. Available from <i>Business Source Premier</i> : EBSCOhost. 7157250.
<b>Abstract</b>	Karlen, DL, Kohler, KA, Laird, DA, Thompson, RL, & Buhler, DD 2002, 'Soil test dynamics throughout a five year 'Thompson Farm' rotation in Iowa'. Abstract retrieved from AGRICOLA database IND23285578.

#### B. Sources from the Internet

<b>eJournal article</b>	Rogers, C & Kirriemuir, J 2003, 'Developing a content management system-based web site' <i>D-Lib Magazine</i> , vol 9, no.5, viewed 15 July 2003. Available from the Internet < <a href="http://www.dlib.org/">http://www.dlib.org/</a> >
<b>Newspaper article</b>	Gosling, M 2003, 'Table Mountain no longer a national monument due to official dithering', <i>Cape Times</i> , 15 July 2003, viewed 17 July 2003. Available from the Internet <a href="http://www.capetimes.co.za/">http://www.capetimes.co.za/</a>
<b>Web document</b>	DesJardins, M 1998, 'How to succeed in postgraduate study', Applied Ecology Research Group, University of Canberra, viewed 11 April 2004, < <a href="http://aerg.Canberra.edu.au/jardins/t.htm">http://aerg.Canberra.edu.au/jardins/t.htm</a> >
<b>Electronic book (ebook)</b>	Computer Science and Telecommunications Board 2003, <i>IT roadmap to a geospatial future</i> , viewed 13 May 2004. Available from the Internet <a href="http://www.nap.edu/openbook/0309087384/html/index.html">http://www.nap.edu/openbook/0309087384/html/index.html</a>
<b>Website</b>	No reference entry is needed; give the URL of the site in text. For example:  2Learn is a very useful Web site for teachers. < <a href="http://www.2Learn.ca/mapset/mapset.html">http://www.2Learn.ca/mapset/mapset.html</a> >
<b>E-Mail</b>	Cite e-mail communication in text only. No reference entry is needed. For example, J. Tong (personal communication, February 9, 2000)

#### C. Sources from CD-ROMs

<b>Journal article</b>	Girotti, TB, Tweed, NB & Houser, NR 1990, 'Realtime var control by SCADA', <i>IEEE Transactions on Power Systems</i> [CD-ROM] vol 5, no.1, pp.61-64. Available: UMI File: IPO (IEEE/IEE Publications Ondisc), Item 3631953.
<b>Computer programme</b>	MathWorks, 2001, <i>MATLAB</i> [CD-ROM], ver 6, rel 12, [Computer programme]. Available Distributor: The MathWorks Inc., 24 Prime Park Way, Natick, MA, 01760-1500, USA.

#### 4. Referencing/Citing of References Retrieved from Online Databases and the Web based on the Vancouver Style (examples from [Uniform requirements for manuscripts submitted to biomedical journals, 2003](#))

A Sources from databases with limited access, such as ScienceDirect, Proquest, Emerald, WebofScience, etc.

<b>Journal article</b>	Spiegel M, Pichlmair A, Mühlberger E, Haller O, Weber F. The antiviral effect of interferon-beta against SARS-Coronavirus is not mediated by MxA protein. J Clin Virol [serial online] 2004 [cited 2004 May 11]; 30(3):211-213. Available from Sciencedirect.
<b>Abstract</b>	Lin, C, Engelman, A. [Abstract of: The Barrier-to-Autointegration Factor Is a Component of Functional Human Immunodeficiency Virus Type 1 Preintegration Complexes. Journal of Virology 2003; 7:5030-5036] [electronic] [cited 2003 Jul 15] Available from Virology & AIDS Abstracts, AN 5591990.

#### B Sources from the Internet

<b>eJournal article</b>	Aboud S. Quality improvement initiative in nursing homes: the ANA acts in an advisory role. Am J Nurs [serial on the Internet]. 2002 Jun [cited 2002 Aug 12];102(6):[about 3 p.]. Available from: <a href="http://www.nursingworld.org/AJN/2002/june/Wawatch.htm">http://www.nursingworld.org/AJN/2002/june/Wawatch.htm</a>
<b>Web document</b>	International Committee of Medical Journal Editors. Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals. Available at: <a href="http://www.icmje.org">http://www.icmje.org</a> . Accessed June 9, 2003.
<b>Electronic book (ebook)</b>	Foley KM, Gelband H, editors. Improving palliative care for cancer [monograph on the Internet]. Washington: National Academy Press; 2001 [cited 2002 Jul 9]. Available from: <a href="http://www.nap.edu/books/0309074029/html/">http://www.nap.edu/books/0309074029/html/</a> .
<b>Website</b>	Cancer-Pain.org [homepage on the Internet]. New York: Association of Cancer Online Resources, Inc.; c2000-01 [updated 2002 May 16; cited 2002 Jul 9]. Available from: <a href="http://www.cancer-pain.org/">http://www.cancer-pain.org/</a> .
<b>E-Mail</b>	Cite e-mail communication in text only. No reference entry is needed. For example, J. Tong (personal communication, February 9, 2004)

#### C. Sources from CD-ROMs

<b>Journal article</b>	Gershon ES. Antisocial behavior. Arch Gen Psychiatry [serial on CD-ROM]. 1995;52:900-901.
<b>eBook</b>	Anderson SC, Poulsen KB. Anderson's electronic atlas of hematology [CD-ROM]. Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins; 2002.
<b>Computer programme</b>	Hemodynamics III: the ups and downs of hemodynamics [computer program]. Version 2.2. Orlando (FL): Computerized Educational Systems; 1993.

## 5. Referencing/Citing of References Retrieved from Online Databases and the Web based on the APA Style

The 5th edition of APA (2001, p.238) recommends that to cite sources from aggregated online databases, cite the work, add a retrieval statement with date and proper name of the database. For other web sources, include a URL that points to the entry page of the database

**A Sources from databases with limited access, such as ScienceDirect, Proquest, Emerald, Web of Science, etc.**

<b>Journal article</b>	Schrader, A. (1999). Internet censorship: Issues for teacher-librarian. <i>Teacher Librarian</i> , 26 (5). Retrieved November 1, 2001, from Academic Search Premier database (Item 1934831). (Note: APA (p.227) indicates that in electronic sources, page numbers are often not relevant.)
<b>Abstract</b>	Andison, C. A. (1998). <i>Learning disabilities and peer victimization in schools</i> . Abstract retrieved February 8, 2000, from UMI ProQuest Digital Dissertation database (AAT MQ37470).

### B Sources from the Internet

<b>eJournal article</b>	Mittelman, M. S., Roth, D. L., Coon, D. W. & Haley, W. E. (2004). Sustained benefit of supportive intervention for depressive symptoms in caregivers of patients with Alzheimer's Disease. <i>Am J Psychiatry</i> , 161: 850-856. Retrieved May 13, 2004, from <a href="http://ajp.psychiatryonline.org/">http://ajp.psychiatryonline.org/</a>
<b>Newspaper article</b>	Azar, B. & Martin, S. (1999 October). APA's Council of representatives endorses new standards for testing high school psychology. <i>APA Monitor</i> . Retrieved October 7, 1999, from <a href="http://www.apa.org/monitor/oct99/in1.html">http://www.apa.org/monitor/oct99/in1.html</a>
<b>Web document</b>	American Psychological Association. (2003). Electronic references. Retrieved May 13, 2004 from <a href="http://www.apastyle.org/elecref.html">http://www.apastyle.org/elecref.html</a>
<b>Electronic book (ebook)</b>	Bloom, F.E. (1994) . <i>Psychopharmacology</i> . Retrieved May 13, 2004, from <a href="http://www.freebooks4doctors.com/">http://www.freebooks4doctors.com/</a>
<b>Website</b>	No reference entry is needed; give the URL of the site in text. For example, 2Learn is a very useful Web site for teachers . <a href="http://www.2learn.ca/mapset/mapset.html">http://www.2learn.ca/mapset/mapset.html</a>
<b>E-Mail</b>	Cite e-mail communication in text only. No reference entry is needed. For example, J. Tong (personal communication, February 9, 2000)