



VANCOUVER REFERENCING STYLE GUIDE

REVISED 09/08/2022

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REFERENCING

Referencing acknowledges the sources that you used to write your essay or assignment paper. Please see the section of this guide regarding intellectual honesty and plagiarism.

In-text citations are used throughout your writing to acknowledge the sources of your information. The full references for the citations are then listed at the end of your assignment paper in the **References** list.

It is important to first consult your unit outline, lecturer, or tutor for the preferred citation style for each unit you undertake.

ACADEMIC HONESTY AND PLAGIARISM

At Western Sydney University plagiarism falls within the framework of the Student Misconduct Rule and its associated guidelines.

Further information about the importance of academic honesty is available on the Library website.

ABOUT THE VANCOUVER STYLE

The Vancouver style is a widely used numbered system of referencing or bibliographic citation. The citation style was originally based on the rules proposed by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors; they are now maintained by the US National Library of Medicine.

This guide covers basic explanations and examples for the most common types of citations used by students based on *Citing Medicine: The NLM Style Guide for Authors, Editors, and Publishers (2nd edition online)*. If you are unable to find the referencing example you require in this guide, more detailed information and examples can be found in the above publication.

For further support, please contact the library:

- o Phone 02 9852 5353
- o Email
- o Online Librarian

IN-TEXT CITATION: REFERENCING SOURCES WITHIN THE TEXT

Throughout the text of your paper you need to acknowledge the sources used in your writing. Whenever you present a statement of evidence such as a quote, or when you use someone else's ideas, opinions, or theories in your own words (paraphrasing), you must acknowledge your sources.

The Vancouver citation style uses a sequential number system whereby the authorship is acknowledged using a number to represent the reference. The reader can then find this reference under the corresponding number in the reference list. This number is static, meaning that the same number is used every time you wish to cite a particular reference at any point in your document.

You can insert numbers as superscript e.g. ¹ or in parentheses e.g. (1). If you wish to cite two or more references together, place a comma between the numbers, e.g. ¹² or (1,2). If you wish to cite a series of consecutive references, use a dash, e.g. ²⁻⁵ or (2-5). When required, page numbers can be given in parentheses after the reference number e.g. ^{2(p34)} or (2 p34) or ^{3(pp4,6)} or (3 pp4,6).

Place the number immediately after the author, title, word, or phrase to which it is directly relevant. In the author-focused in-text citation, the superscript follows immediately after the author (no space). In the idea-focused in-text citation, the superscript follows immediately after the full stop or comma (no space). When colons and semi-colons are used, place the number inside the punctuation.

Mullan¹ described narration as...

The narration of works can be divided into two.²

...in the Royal Commission's landmark report³; yet this result...

Note: When you summarise the general idea of a source in your own words, you must cite the author or body responsible for the work. The use of author-focused in-text citations should be extremely limited.

If you directly quote fewer than four lines of a quote, enclose the quotation using **double** quotation marks within the text. The page number(s) should be provided following the reference number e.g.

Mullan^{1(p215)} explained that tone should be "anti-solemn".

If the quotation is greater than 4 lines it should be displayed in an indented block, in a reduced font size and without quotation marks.

The paper concluded that (pp41,42):

James is making an argument about a singular novel, but that last phrase is evidence enough of his disdain for the form in general. He expresses this elsewhere in his criticism and correspondence, notably in an extraordinary letter to H. G. Wells. In 1911 Wells had sent James a copy of his latest novel, *The New Machiavelli* (1911), which is narrated in the first person.

Sources that you cite in your writing are listed in detail at the end of your document in a reference list.

REFERENCE LIST

A reference list includes details of the sources cited in your paper. It starts on a separate page at the end of your assignment paper and is titled **References**. Each item cited in the reference list *must* have been cited in your paper. All sources appearing in the reference list are listed in the **order in which they are first cited** in the **text** (not alphabetically).

The reference list is a numbered list and should be **single spaced** with a **one line space between** each entry. No indentation is required.

Capitalisation in the Vancouver style is very specific. The following general rules apply:

Book title, chapter, section title and article – capitalise the first letter of the first word of the title, proper nouns, proper adjectives, and acronyms.

e.g. Ageing and aged care in Australia.

Brave new brain: conquering mental illness in the era of the genome.

What can save UNESCO?

Journal and newspaper titles - capitalise the first letter of each word using the appropriate abbreviation for journal names (see section on journal articles in this guide). Newspaper titles are not abbreviated.

e.g. J Educ Psychol

Proper nouns, acronyms, and abbreviations that are normally capitalised should be capitalised in the reference list. For further information on capitalisation, see examples on the following pages for each reference type.

In the Vancouver style **place of publication** requires that the city be followed by the state, province, or country in parentheses. United States and Canadian cities are followed with a two-letter abbreviation of the state or province (see *Citing Medicine*. "Appendix E"). Cities in other countries are followed with the name or a two-letter abbreviation of that country (see *Citing Medicine*. "Appendix D").

```
... Springfield (MA): ...

... Marrickville (AU): ... or ... Marrickville (Australia): ...

... Oxford (GB): ... or ... Oxford (United Kingdom): ...
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Also note that reference elements within each entry are separated by a full stop, and parts of these elements are separated by commas, colons, and semi-colons. End with a period only if the URL ends with a slash, otherwise end with no punctuation. See examples on the following pages for each reference type.

Sources that are not readily retrievable should **not** be listed in the References list, but should be cited within the text of your paper. These sources include personal communications (oral, written, and electronic) and unpublished/yet to be published works. Avoid citing personal communication, including lecture notes, unless to provide essential information not available from another source.

Example of a reference list:

References

- 1. Andreasen NC. Brave new brain: conquering mental illness in the era of the genome. Oxford (GB): Oxford University Press; 2001.
- 2. Schneider Z, Whitehead D, Elliott D. Nursing and midwifery research: methods and appraisal for evidence-based practice. 3rd ed. Marrickville (AU): Elsevier Australia; 2007.
- 3. Davis M, Charles L, Curry MJ. Challenging spatial norms. London (GB): Routledge; 2003.
- 4. Merriam-Webster's collegiate dictionary. 10th ed. Springfield (MA): Merriam Webster; 1993.
- 5. Craven I, editor. Australian cinema in the 1990s. London (GB): Frank Cass; 2001.
- 6. Knowles MS. Using learning contracts. San Francisco (CA): Jossey-Bass; 1986. Chapter 4, Independent study; p. 73-90.
- 7. Ferres K. Idiot box: television, urban myths and ethical scenarios. In: Craven I, editor. Australian cinema in the 1990s. London (GB): Frank Cass; 2001. p. 175-88.
- 8. Storey KB. Functional metabolism regulation and adaptation [Internet]. Hoboken (NJ): John Wiley & Sons; 2004 [cited 2009 Apr 2]. Available from: https://www.proquest.com/.
- 9. Younger P. Using the internet to conduct a literature search. Nurs Stand. 2004 Oct 20;19(6):45-51.
- 10. Jackson D, Firtko A, Edenborough M. Personal resilience as a strategy for surviving and thriving in the face of workplace adversity: a literature review. J Adv Nurs [Internet]. 2007 [cited 2009 Apr 2]; 60(1):1-9. Available from: https://onlinelibrary-wiley-com/doi:10.1111/j.1365-2648.2007.04412.x
- 11. Von Der Luhe I. I without guarantees: Ingeborg Bachmann's Frankfurt lectures on poetics. Kraus MT, translator. New Ger Crit. 1982 Oct 1; 8(27):31-56.
- 12. Berkovic N. Handouts may not be sent: tax office seeks quick resolution of High Court challenge. The Australian. 2009 Mar 31:5.
- 13. Wentworth WC. Why we need a permanent base on the moon. The Sydney Morning Herald [Internet]. 1984 Jan 24 [cited 2008 Dec 19]:11. Available from: https://archives.smh.com.au

ELECTRONIC ITEMS

When referencing electronic resources, it is necessary to give details of where an item is available. This may be a direct URL. For sources that are not freely available and require a login, use the URL of the database or journal homepage. If a DOI number is available, it must be placed at the end of the reference.

- 1. Atkin M. Bermagui forest disputed turf. The Hack Half Hour [Internet]. 2008 Nov 13 [cited 2009 April 2]. Available from: http://www.abc.net.au/triplej/hack/notes/.
- 2. Jackson D, Firtko A, Edenborough M. Personal resilience as a strategy for surviving and thriving in the face of workplace adversity: a literature review. J Adv Nurs [Internet]. 2007 [cited 2009 Apr 2];60(1):1-9. Available from: https://onlinelibrary-wiley-com/doi:10.1111/j.1365-2648.2007.04412.x

Cited dates (i.e. the dates on which the publications were viewed) are required for sources accessed online where the material is subject to change. See examples below and *Citing Medicine* for more information.

REFERENCING SECONDARY SOURCES

Authors should always consult the primary source of information and should not cite through a secondary source unless the primary source is not readily available. Although not preferable, you may sometimes need to quote or paraphrase a source (A) that is referred to within another source (B). The original source should be mentioned in the text of your paper along with the secondary source. The original source is not cited in the reference list entry.

For example, the book you are using is written by Smith who quotes another author called Jones. In your essay you wish to use Jones' idea. Acknowledge the primary source (Jones) as follows:

Jones as cited in Smith¹, agreed that the experiment failed to confirm this hypothesis.

or

Smith¹ cites the experiment by Jones in 2008 that failed to confirm this hypothesis.

Provide the details of the secondary source only in your reference list:

1. Smith J. Analysing hypotheses. Penrith (AU): University of Western Sydney; 2009.

BOOKS AND BOOK CHAPTERS

The standard reference list format for citing entire books is as follows:

Author AA. Book title: subtitle. Edition number. Place of publication: Publisher; Year.

or

Editor AA, editor. Book title: subtitle. Edition number. Place of publication: Publisher; Year.

Note: For information on Organisation as authors refer to *Citing Medicine*.

SINGLE AUTHOR

Reference list	1. Andreasen NC. Brave new brain: conquering mental illness in the era of the genome. Oxford (GB): Oxford University Press; 2001.
In-text citation	has been suggested. ¹
	or
	Andreasen¹ stated that

TWO AUTHORS

Reference list	2. Copstead LE, Banasik JL. Pathophysiology. 3rd ed. St Louis (MO): Elsevier Saunders; 2005.
In-text citation	is demonstrated. ²
	or
	as stated by Copstead and Banasik. ²

THREE OR MORE AUTHORS

Reference list	3. Schneider Z, Whitehead D, Elliott D. Nursing and midwifery research: methods and appraisal for evidence-based practice. 3rd ed. Marrickville (AU): Elsevier Australia; 2007.
	Note: List all authors. Vancouver does not use et al. in the reference list.
In-text citation	as this finding indicated. ³ or Schneider et al. ³ found Note: List only the first author in the text, followed by et al.

NO AUTHOR

Title. Edition number. Place of publication: Publisher; Year.

Reference list	4. Merriam-Webster's collegiate dictionary. 10th ed. Springfield (MA): Merriam Webster; 1993.
In-text citation	The Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary ⁴ defines
	or
	as defined by the Merriam-Webster Collegiate Dictionary. ^{4(p11)}

EDITED BOOK

Reference list	5. Craven I, editor. Australian cinema in the 1990s. London (GB): Frank Cass; 2001.
In-text citation	Craven ⁵ discussed the successful
	or
	in Australian cinema. ⁵

CHAPTER OR ARTICLE IN BOOK

Reference list	6. Knowles MS. Using learning contracts. San Francisco (CA): Jossey-Bass; 1986. Chapter 4, Independent study; p. 73-90.
In-text citation	Knowles ⁶ demonstrated that
	or
	as shown in this independent study. ⁶

CHAPTER OR ARTICLE IN AN EDITED BOOK

Reference list	7. Ferres K. Idiot box: television, urban myths and ethical scenarios. In: Craven I, editor. Australian cinema in the 1990s. London (GB): Frank Cass; 2001. p. 175-188.
In-text citation	Ferres ⁷ discussed the television episode
	or
	the television episode. ⁷

E-BOOK

Reference list	8. Storey KB. Functional metabolism regulation and adaptation [Internet]. Hoboken (NJ): John Wiley & Sons; 2004 [cited 2009 Apr 2]. Available from: https://www.ebscohost.com/ebooks
In-text citation	Storey ⁸ stated that
	or
	is an example of functional metabolism. ⁸

JOURNAL ARTICLES, NEWSPAPER ARTICLES AND CONFERENCE PAPERS

The titles of journals should be abbreviated. A search can be carried out to locate the details and abbreviations of journal titles at: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nlmcatalog/journals. If the title cannot be located in the NLM catalogue follow the abbreviation rules for journal titles in Citing Medicine.

The format for more than one author is the same for all sources including journal articles, therefore, refer to the examples for books in this guide.

The standard reference list format for electronic journal articles is as follows:

Author AA, Author BB, Author CC. Article title. Journal/Periodical Abbreviation [Internet]. Year Month Day [cited Year Month Day]; Volume(Issue): Pages. Available from: URL doi:

Note: If a journal is continuously paginated throughout a volume, the month and day of publication may be omitted.

For more journal and newspaper article examples see Citing Medicine chapters 1, 8, and 23.

JOURNAL ARTICLE (PRINT VERSION)

9. Younger P. Using the internet to conduct a literature search. Nurs Stand. 2004 Oct 20;19(6):45-51.
Younger ^{9(p46)} stated that the
or
The internet can be used to conduct a literature search. ⁹

JOURNAL ARTICLE (FULL-TEXT FROM ELECTRONIC DATABASE)

Reference list	Provide the URL of the database or journal homepage if it is not freely available (for example, access is not free when a login is required).
	When a DOI (Digital Object Identifier) number is available for the journal article place it after the URL.
	10. Jackson D, Firtko A, Edenborough M. Personal resilience as a strategy for surviving and thriving in the face of workplace adversity: a literature review. J Adv Nurs [Internet]. 2007 [cited 2009 Apr 2];60(1):1-9. Available from: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi:10.1111/j.1365-2648.2007.04412.x
In-text citation	Jackson et al. ¹⁰ found that
	or
	was therefore conclusive. ¹⁰

NON-ENGLISH JOURNAL ARTICLE TRANSLATED INTO ENGLISH

Reference list	11. Von Der Luhe I. I without guarantees: Ingeborg Bachmann's Frankfurt lectures on poetics. Kraus MT, translator. New Ger Crit. 1982 Oct 1;8(27):31-56.
In-text citation	Von Der Luhe ¹¹ concludes that both states are essential
	or
	that both states are essential. ¹¹

NEWSPAPER ARTICLE (AVAILABLE IN PRINT)

Reference list	12. Berkovic N. Handouts may not be sent: tax office seeks quick resolution of High Court challenge. The Australian. 2009 March 31:5.
In-text citation	Berkovic ¹² explained that handouts
	or
	It was suggested that handouts may not be sent. ¹²

NEWSPAPER ARTICLE (FROM ELECTRONIC DATABASE)

Reference list	13. Wentworth WC. Why we need a permanent base on the moon. The Sydney Morning Herald [Internet]. 1984 Jan 24 [cited 2008 Dec 19]:11. Available from: https://archives.smh.com.au
In-text citation	Wentworth ¹³ stated that
	or
	the engineered apple. ¹³

ARTICLE (FROM THE INTERNET, NOT AVAILABLE IN PRINT VERSION)

Reference list	14. Cooper D. Native ant may stop toad in its tracks. ABC Science [Internet]. 2009 Mar 31 [cited 2009 Apr 2]. Available from: http://www.abc.net.au/science/articles/2009/03/31/2530686.htm?site=science&topic=latest Provide the direct URL for articles freely available on the internet.
In-text citation	Cooper ¹⁴ stated that a ferocious ant
	or
	that meat ants may be able to help control toad numbers. ¹⁴

PROCEEDINGS OF MEETINGS AND SYMPOSIUMS, CONFERENCE PAPERS

Reference list	15. Chang SS, Liaw L, Ruppenhofer J, editors. Proceedings of the Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting of the Berkeley Linguistics Society; 1999 February 12-15; University of California (CA). Berkeley (CA): Berkeley Linguistics Society; 2000.
	16. Rice AS, Farquhar-Smith WP, Bridges D, Brooks JW. Canabinoids and pain. In: Dostorovsky JO, Carr DB, Koltzenburg M, editors. Proceedings of the 10th World Congress on Pain; 2002 Aug 17-22; San Diego, CA. Seattle (WA): IASP Press; 2003. p. 437-68.
	Note, in example 15 above, if conference information is included in the published title, do not repeat after the title. Where location of conference and place of publication are the same, do not repeat. If the institution where the conference was held is useful to the reader it may be included before the location. For more examples of conference publications see <i>Citing Medicine</i> .
In-text citation	founded in grammatical theory, ¹⁵ which is also supported by later research. ¹⁶ or
	Chang et al. ¹⁵ stated thatwhich was further supported by later research. ¹⁶

SYSTEMATIC REVIEWS

Reference list	17. Osborn DA, Sinn JKH. Soy formula for prevention of allergy and food intolerance in infants. 2006 Oct 18 [cited 2007 Jun 7]. In: Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Internet]; (4). [place unknown]: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd. Available from: https://www.cochranelibrary.com doi: 10.1002/14651858.CD003741.pub4
	Note: For systematic reviews written for primary publications such as a journal or a book, cite as you would a journal article or part of a book.
In-text citation	Osborne and $Sinn^{17}$ stated that or It has been found that allergens are present. ¹⁷

OTHER MATERIALS

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

Reference list	18. Australian Bureau of Statistics. Use of the internet by householders, Australia, November 2000 [Internet]. Canberra (AU); 2001 Feb 16 [cited 2021 May 3]. Report No.: 8147.0. Available from: https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/productsbytopic/AE8E676194 46DB22CA2568A9001393F8?OpenDocument
In-text citation	The Australian Bureau of Statistics ¹⁸ found that
	was shown in the census information. 18

BROCHURE

Reference list	19. Western Sydney University. Transport access guide: Penrith Campus [brochure]. Penrith (AU): Western Sydney University; 2016.
In-text citation	Buses run on a schedule. ¹⁹
	or
	The Western Sydney University transport brochure ¹⁹ shows that

GOVERNMENT REPORT (ONLINE)

Reference list	20. Department of Health and Ageing. Ageing and aged care in Australia [Internet]. Canberra (AU): Australian Government, Department of Health and Ageing; 2008 [cited 2008 Nov 10]. Available from: http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/ageing Place the two-letter country code in parentheses after the author, if it is not part of the title.
In-text citation	was shown in the report. ²⁰
	Or
	The Department of Health and Ageing ²⁰ reported that

IMAGE FROM A DATABASE (ONLINE)

Reference list	21. Anatomy.tv. 3D Real Time, Thorax [Internet]. London (GB): Informa UK Ltd; c2020. [Image], Valves of the heart; [cited 2020 Apr 28]. Available from: https://www.anatomy.tv/.
In-text citation	Caption If the image is included in your assignment, a caption needs to be added under the image. The caption includes a figure number, title of the image (if the image is modified it will require an 'Adapted from' statement preceding the title), a reference number which corresponds with the source in the reference list, and a brief description of any modifications.
	Example: Figure 1: Adapted from Valves of the heart ²¹ by addition of labels.

LECTURE (UNPUBLISHED) / PERSONAL COMMUNICATION

Reference list	Note: When you cite information spoken about in a lecture that has gone unpublished it is treated as a personal communication and you do not need to provide a reference list entry. Provide all information in text. Include the nature and source of the information followed by 'unreferenced' in parentheses.
In-text citation	H. Dwyer stated that "neutrons are dangerous" (H0379 Lecture, Western Sydney University, 2016 Jan 10; unreferenced).

LEGAL CASES

The standard reference list format for a case is as follows:

Case name in italics [year in round or square brackets – see note] Volume Number Abbreviation of law report Commencing page number of case Pinpoint (Name of Court only when not obvious from citation).

Note: Enter year in brackets e.g. (2009) for reports with sequential volume numbers and therefore the year is not essential for locating the correct volume in the series OR use square brackets e.g. [2020] where the year is essential to locate the correct volume.

Reference list	 22. Queensland v Masson [2020] HCA 28. 23. Lane v Morrison [2009] 239 CLR 230. 24. Andrew Shelton & Co Pty Ltd v Alpha Healthcare Ltd [2002) 5 VR 577.
In-text citation	In Queensland v Masson 22 the or In Lane v Morrison 23 the or In Andrew Shelton & Co Pty Ltd v Alpha Healthcare Ltd 24

LEGISLATION

The standard reference list format for Act or Regulations is as follows:

Title Year (Jurisdiction Abbreviation) Pinpoint.

Enter the short title of the Act in italics Year in italics (Jurisdiction) Pinpoint reference to relevant section if applicable.

Reference list	25. Mental Health Act 2007 (NSW) s 18.26. National Cancer Screening Act 2016 (CTH) s 9.
In-text citation	Note: when you are referring to legislation in the text of your work, you should write as you would speak:
	Section 18 of the Mental Health Act 2007 (NSW) 25 states that NOT: Mental Health Act 2007 (NSW) s 18^{25} states that or Section 9 of the National Cancer Screening Act 2016 (Cth) 26 states that
	NOT: National Cancer Screening Act 2016 (Cth) s 9 ²⁶ states that

PODCAST (ON THE INTERNET)

Reference list	27. Atkin MH. Bermagui forest disputed turf. The Hack Half Hour [Internet]. Sydney (AU): ABC; 2008 Nov 13 [cited 2009 Apr 2]. Podcast: 30 min. Available from: https://www.abc.net.au/triplej/hack/notes/.
In-text citation	Atkin ²⁹ found that
	or
	was found. ²⁹

THESIS

Reference list	28. Fayadh KH. The legal regulation of assisted reproductive technology in Iraq: lessons from the Australian approach [dissertation on the Internet]. [Penrith (AU)]: Western Sydney University; 2015 [cited 2015 Nov 24]. Available from: http://handle.uws.edu.au:8081/1959.7/uws:32383
In-text citation	Fayadh ³⁰ showed that or was noted. ³⁰

VIDEO (FROM THE INTERNET)

29. Norton R. How to train a cat to operate a light switch [video on the Internet]. 2006 Nov 4 [cited 2021 Jun 2]; [6 min.]. Available from: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vja83KLQXZs
Norton ³¹ has discussed or has been discussed. ³¹
N 0

WEB PAGE

Reference list	Document on the Internet:
	30. Este J, Warren C, Connor L, Brown M, Pollard R, O'Connor T. Life in the clickstream: the future of journalism [Internet]. Redfern (AU): Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance; 2008 [cited 2009 May 27]. Available from: http://www.alliance.org.au/documents/foj_report_final.pdf
	Document on the Internet, no author, no date:
	31. Developing an argument [Internet]. New Jersey (NJ): Princeton Writing Center; [cited 2009 Mar 30]. Available from http://web.princeton.edu//cites/writing/Writing_Center/WCWritingResources.html
	Note: If the webpage includes a date of revision or update, include the date along with the cited date within square brackets [updated 2009 Jan 15; cited 2009 May 27]
	For further information, on date of publication refer to <u>Citing Medicine</u> .
In-text citation	Este et al. ³² suggest that
	or
	is necessary to develop an argument. ³³

For further assistance with referencing, please contact the library on 02 9852 5353.