



VANCOUVER QUICK REFERENCE AND CITATION GUIDE

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Overview

The Vancouver reference style is an author-number system that is commonly used in health and medicine, as well as the physical sciences. It was formalised in 1978 at a meeting of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) held in Vancouver, Canada.

Referencing correctly according to a particular style (whether that be APA, MLA, IEEE or any other style) involves presenting the publication information required *exactly* in the way proscribed by the style. This means knowing which publication information is required, how and where it should appear in the reference, what punctuation is necessary and where this should be placed.

Thus, when formatting your references/in-text citations to a particular style and reviewing example references/in-text citations, pay close attention to the order of information, how each detail is displayed, and the punctuation used and where this is placed (i.e., whether publication titles should be placed within quotation marks [if so, are they single ‘ ’ or double “ ”?], italicised, have a capital letter for all the main words in the title or just the initial word, and so forth).

In-text citations: General notes

In-text citations are numbered consecutively in the order that they appear in the text, with references that are repeated later in the manuscript keeping their original numbers. Arabic numbers are used to indicate the reference, and the citation numbers can be either enclosed in parentheses (1), square brackets [1], in superscript¹ or any combination.^[1] Multiple references are cited as groups; for example, multiple references in parentheses (1,2,4–6) or in superscript.^{1,2,4–6} Where a specific page of a reference is to be cited, the format is as follows: Halpern and colleagues (1, p.26) found that/ Halpern and colleagues found that^{1(p.26)}... The exact format is usually specified by the relevant journal or publishing company.

In-text citations: Examples

Standard citations			
	Standard method		If author/s are named in-text
1 author	... this was found in one study (15).		Walker (15) asserts ...
2 authors	Several studies (13, 15) have examined the effect of congestion ...		Bradley and Walker (16) calculated ...
3–5 authors	As is proposed in previous research (6–9, 13, 15) ...		As Walsh, Bradley, Soo, Ramirez and Walker (17) proposed ...
6+ authors	Recent research (1) indicates ...		Soo et al (18) observed ...
Special citations			
Two or more works by the same author	Zhou (21, 42) produced ...	Citing specific parts of works	Walker (15, pp.3–12) ... as noted in (16, Sec. 4.2) and (21, Ch. 3, p.67), In (63, Fig. 1), it can be seen ... as in (18, p.45) and (19, eq. [2]) The complete data can be seen in (19, Table 2) see (24, Sect. 4.5) for complete data ... as shown in (16, Appendix 1), ...
Authors with the same surname	A Walker (5) and K Walker (10) both assert ...		
Secondary sources	Whenever possible, you should refer to the primary source and cite that source following these guidelines. If not possible, you can format as follows: 'According to Orsini as cited by Holding et al (7), most cats prefer sunny climates.'	Personal communications	Emails are cited like any other work and included in the Reference List. All other personal communication should be acknowledged within the text main in parentheses. For example: '...this information was conveyed in a letter (Aguilera, Christina. Letter to: Britney Spears. 2012 Mar 03. 4 pages.).'

Reference list: General notes

The reference list is presented as a numbered list, with references appearing in the order they were cited within the manuscript. For example:

- (1) Amabile TM, Hill KG, Hennessey BA, Tighe EM. The work preference inventory: Assessing intrinsic and extrinsic motivational orientations. *J Pers Soc Psychol.*1994;66(5):950–67. doi:10.1037/0022-3514.66.5.950
- (2) Nordentoft M, Madsen T. Høj risiko for selvmord blandt psykiatriske patienter. [High risk of suicide among psychiatric patients]. *Ugeskr Laeger.* 2011;173(39):2413–5. Danish.
- (3) Lemanek, K. Adherence issues in the medical management of asthma. *J Pediatr Psychol* [Internet]. 1990 [cited 2015 Sep 20];15(4):437–58. Available from: <http://jpepsy.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/reprint/15/4/437>

Reference list: Examples

Periodicals

Journal article, with doi

Amabile TM, Hill KG, Hennessey BA, Tighe EM. The work preference inventory: Assessing intrinsic and extrinsic motivational orientations. *J Pers Soc Psychol.*1994;66(5):950–67. doi:10.1037/0022-3514.66.5.950

- **Note:** Journal names are always abbreviated according to the National Library of Medicine format; see <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nlmcatalog/journals> for a searchable list of journal names and their abbreviations.
- **Note:** Most biomedical journals specify that for references with more than either three or six authors, the first three or six names are given, followed by et al., rather than the complete list of authors. The journal of publisher's website will provide this information in their Guide to Authors. For example, for a journal that requires the first three author names: Amabile TM, Hill KG, Hennessey BA, et al. The work preference inventory: Assessing intrinsic and extrinsic motivational orientations. *J Pers Soc Psychol.*1994;66:950–67.
- **Note:** If the journal has continuous page numbers throughout each volume, the issue number can be omitted: for example, Amabile TM, Hill KG, Hennessey BA, Tighe EM. The work preference inventory: Assessing intrinsic and extrinsic motivational orientations. *J Pers Soc Psychol.*1994;66:950–67.

Journal article, published electronically ahead of the print version

Cropley VL, Lin A, Nelson B, Reniers RL, Yung AR, Bartholomeusz CF, et al. Baseline grey matter volume of non-transitioned 'ultra high risk' for psychosis individuals with and without attenuated psychotic symptoms at long-term follow-up. *Schizophr Res.* 2015; May 29. doi: 10.1016/j.schres.2015.05.014. [Epub ahead of print]

Journal article, with non-English title, no doi

Nordentoft M, Madsen T. Høj risiko for selvmord blandt psykiatriske patienter. [High risk of suicide among psychiatric patients]. *Ugeskr Laeger*. 2011;173(39):2413–5. Danish.

Online journal article, without doi

Lemanek, K. Adherence issues in the medical management of asthma. *J Pediatr Psychol* [Internet]. 1990 [cited 2015 Sep 20];15(4):437–58. Available from: <http://jpepsy.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/reprint/15/4/437>

Online journal article, with doi

Fletcher D, Wagstaff CRD. Organisational psychology in elite sport: Its emergence, application and future. *Psychol Sport Exerc*. 2009;10(4):427–34. doi:10.1016/j.psychsport.2009.03.009

Article in journal supplement

McGorry PD. The specialist youth mental health model: strengthening the weakest link in the public mental health system. *Med J Aust*. 2007;187(7 Suppl):S53–6.

Article in journal where the type of article is indicated

Ganster DC, Schaubroeck J, Sime WE, Maynes BS. The nomological validity of the Type A personality among employed adults [monograph]. *J Appl Psychol*. 1991;76:143–168. doi:10.1037/0021-9010.76.1.143

- **Note:** Article types can include editorials, reviews, commentaries, letters, monographs etc.

Newspaper article with author

Purdon F. Colder babies at risk of SIDS. *The Courier Mail* 2010 Mar 8:9

Newspaper article without author

Abbot swipe: Morrison 'never warned anyone'. *The Age* 2015, Sep 22:1

Newspaper article, retrieved online

Gardner N. Rates to trigger recession—cost of living crunch—get our power bills down. *Sunday Telegraph* [Internet]. 2011 13 June [cited 2015 Sep 20]; Available from: <http://global.factiva.com.ezproxy.uow.edu.au/ha/default.aspx>

Newsletter article, no author

Six sites meet for comprehensive anti-gang initiate conference. *OJJDP News @ a Glance*. 2006 November/December [cited 2015 Sep 20]; Available from: http://www.ncjrs.gov/html/ojjdp/news_at_a_glance/216684/topstory.html

Books

Book, edition other than the first

Cohen J. Statistical power analysis for the behavioural sciences. 2nd ed. Hillside, NJ: Erlbaum; 1988.

- **Note:** When preparing a reference list for a book or book chapter, many publishers ask that for references with more than either three or six authors, only the first three or six names are given, followed by et al., rather than the complete list of authors. The publisher's guidelines for authors will indicate the format required.

Book, electronic version of a print book

Griffin E. A first look at communication theory. 7th ed. [internet]. Boston, MA: McGraw-Hill; 2000. Available from: http://www.afirstlook.com/edition_7/book

Translation of a book

Luria AR. The mind of a mnemonist [L. Soltaroff, trans]. New York: Avon Books; 1969.

Chapter in book—one editor

Emmons RA. The personal strivings approach to personality. In: LA Pervin, editor. Goal concepts in personality and social psychology. Hillsdale, NJ: Erlbaum; 1989.

Chapter in book—multiple editors

Baard P. Intrinsic need satisfaction in organizations: A motivational basis of success in for-profit and not-for-profit settings. In R. Deci, E. Ryan, editors. Handbook of self-determination research. New York: The University of Rochester Press; 2002.

Chapter in multi-volume book (Vol. 6, pp. 191–233)

Daft RL, Lengel RH. Information richness: A new approach to managerial behavior and organization design. In: BM Staw, LL Cummings, editors. Research in organizational behaviour. Vol. 6. Greenwich, CT: JAI Press; 1984.

Entry in an online reference work

Graham G. Behaviorism. In: E. N. Zalta, editor. The Stanford encyclopedia of philosophy. Fall 2007 ed. [cited 2015 Sep 20]. Available from: <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/behaviorism>

Entry in an online reference work, no author, no date

Heuristic. In: Merriam-Webster's online dictionary. 11th ed. [cited 2015 Sep 20]. Available from: <http://www.m-w.com/dictionary/heuristic>

Reference book

APA dictionary of psychology. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association; 2007. Psychopath; p.120.

- **Note:** when citing a definition in a dictionary, the term being defined must be included: see directly above for the term 'psychopath'.

Websites

Law Society of NSW. Statistics [Internet]. 2003 [cited 2015 Sep 20]. Available from: <http://www.lawsociety.com.au/idc/groups/public/documents/internetcontent/02609.pdf>

Technical and research reports

Australian Bureau of Statistics. National survey of mental health and wellbeing: Summary of results. Canberra: ABS; 2007. Cat. No. 4326.0.

Beaton Consulting Pty Ltd. Annual professions study 2007. South Yarra, Vic: Beaton Consulting; 2007. Research Report No. 06.3.

Meetings and symposia

Conference paper, unpublished

Akinyemi A. (2003). Web-based learning and cultural interference: Perspectives of Arab students. Paper presented at the Sixteenth Conference on E-Learning in Corporate, Government, Healthcare, and Higher Education; 2003 Sep 20–22; Miami (FL). Available from: <http://www.editlib.org/p/12239>

Conference paper, published in book form

Christensen S, Oppacher F. An analysis of Koza's computational effort statistic for genetic programming. In: Foster JA, Lutton E, Miller J, Ryan C, Tettamanzi AG, editors. Genetic programming. EuroGP 2002: Proceedings of the 5th European Conference on Genetic Programming; 2002 Apr 3–5; Kinsdale, Ireland: Berlin: Springer; 2002. p. 182–91.

Proceedings, published in book form

Harnden P, Joffe JK, Jones WG, editors. Germ cell tumours V. Proceedings of the 5th Germ Cell Tumour Conference; 2001 Sep 13–15; Leeds (UK). New York: Springer 2002.

Dissertations and theses

Abouhaseira M. (1998). Education, political development, and stability in Saudi Arabia [Doctoral dissertation]. Los Angeles (CA): University of Southern California; 1998.

Alamir A. Instructor influence on online interaction in EFL context: An action research study of Saudi English learning [Master's thesis]. Melbourne: University of Melbourne; 2007.

Audiovisual media

DVD

American Psychological Association (Producer). Responding therapeutically to patient expressions of sexual attraction [DVD]. Washington (DC): American Psychological Association; 2007. Available from: <http://www.apa.org/videos/>

Podcast

Australian Broadcasting Corporation. The Science Show [podcast on the internet]. Sydney: ABC Radio National; 2014 [cited 2015 Sep 20]. Available from: <http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/scienceshow/about/>

Datasets

Dataset

Jablonski S. Online Multiple Congenital Abnormality/Mental Retardation (MCA/MR) Syndromes [Internet]. Bethesda (MD): National Library of Medicine (US); c1999 [updated 2001 Nov 20; cited 2002 Aug 12]. Available from: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/archive//20061212/mesh/jablonski/syndrome_title.html

Blogs and blog posts

Blog

Wall Street Journal. Health Blog: WSJ's blog on health and the business of health [Internet]. Hensley S, editor. New York: Dow Jones & Company, Inc. c2007 [cited 2015 Sep 20]. Available from: <http://blogs.wsj.com/health/>

Blog post

PZ Myers. The unfortunate prerequisites and consequences of partitioning your mind. 2007 Jan 22 [cited 2015 Sep 18]. Retrieved from In: Science Blogs [Internet]. Available from: http://scienceblogs.com/pharyngula/2007/01/the_unfortunate_prerequisites.php

Comment on a blog article

MiddleKid. Re: The unfortunate prerequisites and consequences of partitioning your mind. 2007 Jan 22 [cited 2015 Sep 18]. In: Science Blogs [Internet]. Available from: http://scienceblogs.com/pharyngula/2007/01/the_unfortunate_prerequisites.php