Citation Style for UCD History Essays

History essays must be word processed (typed) and double-spaced. Citation Style should follow the rules established by the premier journal of Irish history, *Irish Historical Studies*. A synopsis of the most common rules used in undergraduate essays follows. Any citation matters not dealt with in this document can be addressed in the full version of the rules available at: [http://www.irishhistoricalstudies.ie/docs/rulesforcontribs.pdf](http://www.irishhistoricalstudies.ie/docs/rulesforcontribs.pdf). Note that these rules differ from those used by other Schools.

There are two main reasons for following the appropriate style: (1) to allow the reader easily to identify and locate your source; (2) to demonstrate the skill of adhering to the conventions of a particular genre of writing. The key points are:

- Use footnotes (numbered from 1) rather than endnotes or textual references
- Include the author’s name, the title of the work, place and date of publication, edition if there is more than one, and the page number
- Do not include the publisher
- The style for the bibliography is slightly different and is discussed below

Books - Single Author

Notes: The title is in italics and inverted commas are not used. The place of publication is the city or town - not the suburb, county or country! If you wish to cite more than one page, use ‘pp 45-7’. Observe the position of commas.

Edited collections:


Notes: The first example is of an essay in an edited collection, the second of the entire book. Essays have inverted commas, books have italics. ‘ed.’ (with a full stop) is an abbreviation for ‘editor’ or ‘edited’; ‘eds’ (without a full stop) is an abbreviation for ‘editors’. If there are three or more editors the convention is: Pádraig G. Lane *et al.*, *Laois History and Society: Interdisciplinary Essays on the History of an Irish County* (Dublin, 1999).

More complicated books:

Notes: Adapt as appropriate!

Journal Article

Notes: Like essays, the titles of articles have inverted commas, not italics. However, the title of the Journal has italics. Here, we include the volume, number and year of the publication but omit the place. Note that you should *always* cite in this way, even if you accessed the journal online or as a photocopy.
Electronic Document:

Notes: The key pieces of information here are the address and the date you accessed the site. If an author’s name is supplied, give it. This applies only to websites. Articles and primary sources that are available online should always be cited as hardcopy. You should never, for example, cite JSTOR.

One source cited by another:

Notes: Always cite the source you have actually read, giving as much additional information as you can. Do not include Cooney in the bibliography unless you have actually read him. This should also be observed in the case of primary sources.

Primary sources:
When primary sources are supplied by your module co-ordinator, just use the citation you are given. Otherwise, consult the ‘Rules for Contributors to I.H.S.’

Bibliography:
The Bibliography is the list of all the sources that have influenced the essay, not just those that appear in footnotes. List all these sources by author’s name in alphabetical order and, to facilitate this, put the surname first. Put the publication details at the end and without brackets. In the case of an essay or article give the page numbers that cover it in its entirety. The bibliography that includes all the sources cited here would look like this:

Victorian Web.

Some General Pointers:
- Spelling follows British rather than US conventions
- Rules for I.H.S. prefers lower case to upper case for titles – the School has no preference, but be consistent
- Use single rather than double quotation marks
- When you cite a source for the second time use a short form. For example, Eric Richards, Britannia’s Children: Emigration from England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland since 1600 (London, 2004), p. 45 should become Richards, Britannia’s Children, p. 47. Avoid ibid. and op.cit.