Vancouver Referencing Style

What is it?

Academic writing requires the author to support their arguments with reference to other published work or experimental results/findings. A reference system will perform three essential tasks:

- Enable you to acknowledge other authors ideas (avoid plagiarism).
- Enable a reader to quickly locate the source of the material you refer to so they can consult it if they wish.
- Indicate to the reader the scope and depth of your research.

The Vancouver system is a widely used referencing system to help you achieve these objectives.

How do I use the Style?

- The Vancouver system places bibliographic information at the bottom of a page or at the end of a paper. Bibliographic information does not appear within the text of a document.
- A superscript number is inserted in your text at the point where you refer to your source of information. A consecutive number is allocated to each source as it is referred to for the first time. This number becomes the unique identifier of that source and is reused each time that particular reference is cited in the text: e.g. New data was summarized by Blake \(^3\) in a recent report.
- The list of citations should appear at the end of your paper in the order which they were cited.
- Special abbreviations should be used when an item is cited for a second time and when an item is cited twice in a row.

Below is a list of some common citation types along with examples of how they are laid out within the Vancouver system guidelines.
**Book with one author**

Author Last name Initials. Title. Edition. Place of publication: Publisher; Year of publication.


**Book with two - six authors**

Author(s) Last name Initials. Title. Place of publication: Publisher; Year of publication.


**Book with more than six authors**

First six author(s) Last name Initials, et al. Title. Place of publication: Publisher; Year of publication.


**Book with a corporate author**

Organization name. Title. Place of publication: Publisher; Year of publication.


**Book with an Editor**

Editor(s) Last name Initials, editors. Title. Place of publication: Publisher; Year of publication.

Chapter in an edited book

Author(s) Last name Initials. Title of chapter. In: Editor(s) Last name Initials, editors. Title of book. Place of publication: Publisher; year of publication. Page numbers.


Print Journal article

Author(s) Last name Initials. Title of article. Abbreviated journal title. Year of publication; Volume (Issue): Pages.


E-journal article

Author(s) last name Initials. Title of article. Abbreviated journal title [Internet]. Year Month Day of publication [cited Year Month Day]; Volume (Issue): Pages. Available from: URL.


Print newspaper article

Author(s) Last name Initials. Title of article. Newspaper. Year Month Day of publication: Section. (Column).


Newspaper article - online

Author(s) Last name Initials. Title of article. Newspaper [Internet]. Year Month Day of publication [cited Year Month Day]: Section: [Pages]. Available from: URL
Website/Page on a website

Author(s). Webpage title [Internet]. Location: Publisher; Year of publication [updated Year Month Day; cited Year Month Day]. Available from: URL

N.B. If no date of publication is available, use (undated) or (no date) instead of the date. This shows you have not just forgotten to include the date.


Blog

Author(s) Last name Initials. Title of blog entry. Year Month Day of blog entry [cited Year Month Day]. In: Title of blog [Internet]. City of publication: Publisher. Year Month Day of publication - .[pagination of blog entry]. Available from: URL


Email communication/Interviews

- Details of personal communication should be provided in the text.
- The name of the person and date of communication should be cited in parentheses in the text.
- A citation number is not used and no details are included in your reference list.
Example: Numerous genes associated with diseases such as leukemia have been identified (George Scott, email to author, 2010 Feb 10).

**Government agency publication**

Name of organization or agency. Title. Place of publication: Publisher; Year of publication.


**Parliamentary and legal material**

Title, Jurisdiction [statute on the Internet]. cYear of publication [cited Year Month Day]. Available from: URL


**EU publications**

Organization name. Title. Place of publication: Publisher; Year of publication.


**Conferences**

Author(s) Last name Initials. Title of paper. In: Title of conference proceedings; Year Month Day(s) of conference; Location City, Country. Place of publication: Publisher; Year of publication. Page numbers.

Theses

Author(s) Last name Initials. Title of thesis [dissertation]. [Place of publication]: Publisher, year of publication. Total number of pages.


Audio-visual material

Director(s) Last name initials. Title [Format]. Place of distribution: Distribution company, year.

Example: Von Donnersmarck FH. The lives of others [DVD]. Santa Monica: Lionsgate; 2007.

EndNote is a software application that allows researchers store and manage all references in one place. It is available via Software for U and the Library runs regular introductory and advanced training sessions.

- Users can record, store and manage references in hundreds of citation styles.
- Users can add references manually or search and download directly from online databases and library catalogues.
- EndNote Cite While You Write features allows users to insert citations easily and creates bibliographies automatically in Microsoft Word (and Apple's Pages '09 with EndNote version X2).

More information about Library support for Endnote is available on our website¹.

¹ http://www.ucd.ie/library/endnote