



# The Writing Center

## Chicago Manual of Style (CMOS)



### Author-Date Style

The **author-date** system is more common in the sciences and social sciences. In this system, sources are briefly cited in the text, usually in parentheses, by author's last name and year of publication. Each in-text citation matches up with an entry in a reference list, where full bibliographic information is provided.

On the backside of this handout, you will find examples of what Author-Date CMOS-style looks like. Using standard formats for your entries enhances your credibility with academic readers, and alphabetizing your list helps fellow researchers quickly locate the sources that you refer to in the body of your text.

Keep in mind a few more formatting rules:

- Begin your Reference page on a new page; it will be the last page of your essay. Title this as a References page.
  - The page must have one-inch margins on each side.
  - Double space the References page and use hanging indents.
  - Alphabetize the entries based on the first segment of information in the entry. (i.e. If you don't have the author's name, begin the entry with the work's title)
  - The entries for the Author-Date and Notes-Bibliography style vary slightly.
  - To look into specific CMOS citation questions, go to The CMOS Online at <https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/home.html>.
1. **Note: The information in parenthesis on the following page is not part of the citation. We have listed in brackets the type of source; you will not need to do this when you create your works cited page.**
  2. **Note about URLs: CMOS makes no recommendation between using a DOI or using the URL for online sources. You will want to use whatever reference your professor prefers. If your professor has no preference, citing a DOI is preferable to citing a URL.**
  3. **The definition of the Author-Date Style and citation samples came from the CMOs website.**

## References

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