Citation Bootcamp

Langara College Writing Centre +
Langara College Library
[Why]

1. Show you’ve read widely and deeply from appropriate materials & are well-informed
2. Provide your reader with the publication details for the original work
3. Give credit to the author of the original work
There are numerous citation styles:

The **three most common** styles are:
- APA style (American Psychological Association)
- MLA style (Modern Language Association)
- Chicago style (University of Chicago Press)
Citation style guides specify:
1. Which publication details to include (author name, year of publication, etc.)
2. Order of appearance for publication details
3. Punctuation conventions (when to capitalize, italicize, etc.)
Broadly speaking, there are **2 parts to a citation:**

1. *In-text citation.* Appears in the body of your paper; points readers to the reference list.*

2. *References (APA) | Works Cited (MLA) | Bibliography (Chicago).* Appears at the end of your paper; includes full publication details.

*Note: Chicago uses footnotes/endnotes.*
## How

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>APA Style</th>
<th>MLA Style</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>In-text citation example</strong></td>
<td>Historically, humans have struggled to manage natural resources sustainably <em>(Coria &amp; Calfucura, 2012, p.53)</em>.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
[How]

Q: Where do you find the publication details needed for a citation?
A: It depends on the type of source you’re looking at! ...
Example:

*Books* – look at the first few pages for publication details
Example: Journals – look at the first page and bottom/top of subsequent pages for publication details.
Finding publication details on web pages can be challenging; see this web page, for example:

- Check the top of the page for the title of the web page
- Check the bottom of the page for date of electronic publication/last update
- Look next to date of publication/last update for the publishing organization

**Note:** Sometimes websites don’t provide complete publication details; include all those you can find.
Some of the library’s databases will provide you with a citation for your article.

Example: 
Academic Search Premier (Ebsco)
Find guidelines for formatting your papers at the **Purdue Online Writing Lab** and **Research & Documentation Online** including:

- Margins
- Font
- Font size
- First page/title page
- Punctuation
- Spacing
- Headers

**Note:** These resources include sample papers!
[How]

Need help? We’ve got you covered:

- [Langara Library: Citing your sources](#)
- [Langara Writing Centre](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)
  - Text us @ 604.363.0743
  - Phone us @ 604.323.5388
  - Visit us in the library