

*Referencing Styles, Materials Engineering Department,
Najafabad Branch, Islamic Azad University, 2016*

To make the reference list and bibliography consistent and easy to read across different papers there are predefined styles stating how to set them out - these are called citation styles. Different subjects prefer to each use different styles. The following are the most popular:

ACS (American Chemical Society)

The style manual of the American Chemical Society is now in its third edition. It is widely used in chemistry and related disciplines. The ACS manual gives instructions for numbered referencing and also for in-text (Harvard style) referencing.

AGLC (Australian Guide to Legal Citation)

This is now the standard Australian guide for referencing in Law. It is a footnote style and includes detailed provisions for referencing statutes, case reports and other legal materials.

AMA (American Medical Association)

This style is widely used in medicine, especially in journals published by the American Medical Association.

APA (American Psychological Association)

This is the standard style used in Psychology, but it is also widely used in other disciplines, especially in the Social Sciences. It is one of the many variants of the Harvard style.

Chicago Manual of Style

The Chicago Manual of Style is the most widely consulted of all style manuals. It includes provisions for footnote referencing and author-date referencing.

The Chicago Manual's footnote referencing system is widely used in the arts

and humanities.

CSE (Council of Science Editors)

The manual of the Council of Science Editors (CSE) is now in its seventh edition. It was first issued in 1960 by the Council of Biology Editors and is still sometimes referred to as the CBE manual. It is widely used in the life sciences, and its provisions are applicable to other scientific disciplines also.

The CSE manual recommends a numbered referencing system, where the reference list is arranged alphabetically by author and numbered accordingly.

Harvard

Harvard is a generic term for any style which contains author-date references in the text of the document, such as (Smith 1999). There will also be a list of references at the end of the document, arranged by authors' names and year of publication. There is no official manual of the Harvard style: it is just a generic term for the many styles which follow that format.

IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers)

The IEEE is the major professional body and publisher in the fields of electrical engineering and computer science. Their style manual is widely used in those disciplines. It uses a numbered reference list.

The IEEE Computer Society has its own style manual, which is based on the IEEE manual but differs in some respects.

MLA (Modern Language Association of America)

The MLA style is widely used in the fields of modern literature and linguistics. MLA referencing uses Harvard-style references in the text of the document, but without the year of publication.

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The MLA style is published in two different publications: *MLA Style Manual and Guide to Scholarly Publishing* and *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. These two publications contain identical guidelines for referencing.

Vancouver

Vancouver is a generic term for a style of referencing widely used in the health sciences, using a numbered reference list.

There is no official manual of the Vancouver style, but the US National Library of Medicine's style guide is now considered the most authoritative manual on this type of referencing.