OU Harvard guide to citing references
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1 Introduction

This guide provides practical advice and examples to help you create references for information sources using the Open University (OU) Harvard style. Some OU modules may use other referencing styles. Please check the details for your module before using this guide.

Note: this guide was revised in October 2014. Some of the advice has been slightly amended, but it should not differ significantly from earlier versions. If your module materials ask you to reference OU module materials in a different way, please follow your module’s guidance. If you are unsure, contact your tutor.

If you are unable to find the reference type you need in this guide, you are advised to find something similar and base your reference on that example. The main aim is to record the key information about your source to enable someone else to locate it. See the Library FAQ (‘What if I cannot find the reference type I need in the OU Harvard guide to citing references?’) for more guidance.

1.1 Principles of in-text citations and references

When producing an academic assignment you are required to acknowledge the work of others by citing references in the text and creating a list of references or bibliography at the end. There are two steps involved:

Step 1: In-text citations

In-text citations enable you to indicate in your work where you have used ideas or material from other sources. Here are some examples using the OU Harvard style. If, for example, your source is a book written by Brown and published in 1999, your in-text references would follow one of these three formats:

- Further work (Brown, 1999) supports this claim
- Further work by Brown (1999) supports this claim
- ‘This theory is supported by recent work’ (Brown, 1999, p. 25).

For further guidance see In-text citations (Section 2) of this guide.
Step 2: List full references at the end of your work

Everything you have cited in the text of your work, for example journal articles, web pages, podcasts, etc., should be listed in alphabetical order at the end. This is the reference list. Each reference should include everything you need to identify the item. You need to identify the source type (e.g. book, journal article) and use the correct referencing format from this guide to create the reference. If you include items that are not specifically cited but are relevant to the text or of potential interest to the reader, then that is a bibliography.

For further guidance see Reference list (Section 3 of this guide).


These terms (from the Latin opere citato, ‘in the work already cited’ and ibidem, ‘in the same place’) are not used in the OU Harvard system.

1.2 The general structure of a reference

As mentioned in Section 1.1, the main aim in providing accurate and consistent referencing (apart from meeting academic conventions) is to enable your readers to look up the exact sources that you have cited in your piece of work. This means that you need to give accurate information about the type of item, the name or title of the item, who produced it, the date it was produced and where you found it. All reference examples in this guide are based on a combination of some or all of these elements, depending on the type of item. Knowing this should help you to break down a reference into its component parts and therefore to create references for any sources you might use that aren’t covered in this guide.

Broadly speaking, the key pieces of information for a reference in OU Harvard style tend to be:

Author, A. A. and Other-Author, B. B. (Date) ‘Title of item’, Title of Overall Work [Item type/information], Publisher information/location from which accessed.

Author/creator

This is usually the names of the person or people who created the specific item you are citing.
Date
This is the year, and sometimes the month and day, when the cited item was published or made available. If no date is available, use n.d. If a work is to be published in the near future, use ‘forthcoming’.

Title/name of item
This is the title of the specific item you have cited.

Title/name of overall work
This is the title of any overall work in which the item you cited appeared, for example an edited book from which you used a chapter or the journal from which you used an article.

Item type/information
This is information about the type of item you’ve cited, for example an ebook, a Twitter post or a DVD. It could also be where information about the nature of the item is placed, for example that this is a special issue or special section of a journal.

Publisher information
This is the item publisher’s location and name.

Location from which accessed
This is usually a URL or web address from which the item can be accessed. These elements are the basic parts from which a reference in Harvard style is formed. There are various modifications to this, depending on the type of item. If you can’t find an example reference in this guide for the precise type of item you have cited, you should find the most similar example and base your reference on that, bearing in mind the elements outlined above.
2 In-text citations

In the Harvard system, references in the text (in-text citations) are referred to by the **author's name** and **year of publication**, for example:

> It is stated that … (Bloggs, 2007) or Bloggs (2007) states …

**Quotes**

If you are directly quoting material (i.e. using the exact form of words used in the original and putting the text in quote marks), you will also need to include the **page number(s) of the quoted material** in your in-text citation, for example:

> Bloggs talks about ‘the importance of preparation’ for interviews (2007, p. 57).

This is also the case for where you use quoted material from all the types of text referred to in the rest of this guide, unless page numbers are not available.

Larger quotes should be displayed in a separate paragraph, for example:

> Bloggs (2007, p. 348) is more critical:

> I don’t agree with this at all, the argument is poorly made and does not hold up to any scrutiny. One begins to wonder if we shall ever see any sense from this organisation on this subject at any time in the next one hundred years.

If you do not name the source in the lead-in to the quote, then it must be given after it:

> Other commentators are more critical:

> I don’t agree with this at all, the argument is poorly made and does not hold up to any scrutiny. One begins to wonder if we shall ever
see any sense from this organisation on this subject at any time in the next one hundred years.

(Bloggs, 2007, p. 348)

Authors with more than one publication

In the reference list or bibliography, items are listed only once in alphabetical order. In some cases you may refer to more than one publication by an author for a specific year. To help identify these different items for your in-text citation and reference list, you should add a letter of the alphabet to the year of publication, for example:

(Thomson, 2004a), (Thomson, 2004b) and (Thomson, 2004c) where a, b and c refer to the order in which they are cited in your text.

Multiple authors

If a publication has three or more authors the in-text citation should list only the first author followed by et al. (‘and others’). For example:

(Jones et al., 2006)

but in the reference list or bibliography you would list each author in full as follows:


Citing multiple sources

Where you have several in-text citations together, you should order them in reverse chronological order, beginning with the most recently published source, and separate each source with a semicolon (;). If more than one work is published in the same year, order these texts alphabetically by author.

(Frobisher, 2012; Barnes et al., 2009; Huy, 2009; Monk and Bosco, 2001)

These terms (from the Latin *opere citato*, ‘in the work already cited’ and *ibidem*, ‘in the same place’) are not used in the OU Harvard system.
3 Reference list

References in the reference list or bibliography give, in alphabetical order by author surname, full details of all the sources you have used in the text. When a corporate author’s name starts with ‘The’, use the first main word of the title when alphabetising, e.g. The Open University is listed under ‘O’. For example:

Reference list example


4 Secondary referencing

You may want to use a quotation or an idea from a source referenced in a work you have read. You haven’t read the original, but have discovered it through a secondary source. This is known as ‘secondary referencing’. You could try to get hold of the original, but if you can’t then you need to make it clear in your work that you have not read the original and are referencing the secondary source, for example:

**In-text citation:** Bloggs (2004), cited in Smith (2007), loves chocolate.

In the reference list you would provide details for the source you read it in, for example:

**Smith, J. (2007) Musings from Chocolate Lovers, Bicester, JFJ Press.**

If your secondary source is part of your OU module materials, see Secondary referencing in module materials (Section 7.7) for guidance.
5 Books, book chapters and ebooks

5.1 Books

In-text citation:

(Author, year of publication) or Author (year of publication) says …

Full reference:

Author, A. (year of publication) *Title of Book*, Place of publication, Publisher.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Note that:

If the book has an edition number, you should record this after the title as in the example above. For guidance about how to cite works with multiple authors, see In-text citations (Section 2 of this guide).

5.2 Book chapters

In-text citation:

... and others agree (Author of chapter, year of publication) or Author of chapter (year of publication) states ...

Full reference:

Author of chapter, A. (year of publication) ‘Title of chapter’, in Author A. (ed[s]) *Title of Book*, Place of publication, Publisher, page extent.
5.3 Translated books

**In-text citation:**

(Author, year of publication) or Author (year of publication) says ...

**Full reference:**

Author, A. (year of publication of translated version [year of publication of original work if available]) *Title of Book* (trans. A. Translator), Place of publication, Publisher.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Note that:**

If there is information available about the original language and it would be helpful for you to include that, you can format your reference as shown in the second example above.

5.4 Modern editions

**In-text citation:**
(Author, year of original publication) or Author (year of original publication) says ...

**Full reference:**

Author, A. (year of original publication) *Title of Book*, Editor, A. and Editor, B. (eds), Place of publication, Publisher (this edition year).

---

**Examples**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

---

### 5.5 Sacred texts

**In-text citation:**

(Book and chapter/Surah: verse)

**Full reference:**

Sacred text except for Bible. Book and chapter/Surah: verse, version of Bible only.

---

**Examples**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Matthew 5: 3–12)</td>
<td>Matthew 5: 3–12, Revised standard version of the Bible.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5.6 Ancient texts

Referencing ancient texts presents specific challenges. For example, titles may not be consistently referenced: they may not have existed in the modern sense or may be subject to different translations. It is important to cite information such that a reader will be able to find the exact passage you are referring to in any edition of the work. To this end, you always need to give the name of the author and the title of the work (unless only one work survives by that author, in which case the title is not needed). When referencing ancient texts within the body of your assignment, you should wherever possible refer to the book and/or line or chapter numbers of the work in question, rather than the page number of the modern translation. Each ancient text has a conventional way in which it is divided into sections. For most ancient texts the following will apply:

**Prose texts** (e.g. historical works, letters, speeches, essays) are divided into books, chapters and (sometimes) sections:

- Tacitus, *Annals* 4.31
- Strabo, 7.5.1 (no title needed as only one work survives)

**Poetic/dramatic works** (e.g. poems, plays) are sometimes divided into books or scenes in the first instance, and always into individual lines:

- Virgil, *Aeneid* 3.466
- Aristophanes, *Lysistrata* 1235-41

In your bibliography, you are required to give details not just of the author, title, the place and date of publication but also of the translator and the title of the modern publication. The publication date is the modern rather than the ancient date.

The guidance here differs slightly from that in the section on Translated books (Section 5.3 of this guide) and reflects the practice used in the Department of Classical Studies at the OU.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Note that you may sometimes have to give approximate line numbers if a modern translator has chosen not to render each line of ancient text with exactly one line of modern text.
5.7 Ebooks online

**In-text citation:**

(Author, year of ebook publication) or Author (year of ebook publication) states ...

**Full reference:**

Author, A. (year of ebook publication) *Title of Book* [Online], Place of publication if available, Publisher if available. Available at URL (Accessed date).

### Examples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

If you accessed your ebook via a database, you should reference the database name (see second example above). If your ebook has section titles or numbered sections instead of page numbers, you should use these to indicate the location of any quotations.

For guidance about referencing online figures, diagrams and tables, see Figures, diagrams and tables (Section 7.6 of this guide).

5.8 Ebooks on readers

**In-text citation:**

(Author, year of ebook publication) or Author (year of ebook publication) states ...

**Full reference:**
Author, A. (year of ebook publication) Title of Book [ebook reader], Place of publication, Publisher.

Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Note that:

Ebook readers have different standards for presenting page locations, and page numbering can vary depending on the type of reader and the settings you are using. Instead, you should use section numbers (or, if these are not available, section titles) to indicate the location of any quotations:

(Pike and Price, 2011, Section 1.1)
6 Journal and newspaper articles

6.1 Printed journal articles

In-text citation:

(Author, year of publication) or Author (year of publication) states ...

Full reference:

Author, A. (year of publication) ‘Title of article’, Title of Journal, volume [abbreviated to vol.], number [abbreviated to no.], page number(s) [abbreviated to p. or pp.].

Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

6.2 Ejournal articles

Please make sure that you reference the format of a journal article that you have actually used. If you consulted a print copy of a journal (Section 6.1), you should reference it accordingly. If, however, you have used an electronic copy of an article from an ejournal, you should reference that version.

In-text citation:

(Author, year of publication) or Author (year of publication) states ...

Full reference:

Author, A. (year of publication) ‘Title of article’, Title of Journal, volume [abbreviated to vol.], number [abbreviated to no.], page number(s) if known [abbreviated to pp.] [Online]. Available at URL (Accessed date).

Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Not all online journals have page numbers, in which case it is correct to format references without these.

For articles that have been accepted for publication by a journal for a forthcoming issue which you may have been able to access online before the publication date, use ‘Forthcoming’ in place of the date.

For guidance about referencing online figures, diagrams and tables, see ‘Figures, diagrams and tables’ (Section 7.6).

**URLs and DOIs for ejournals**

If the article is not from a database, you should use the standard URL provided, as in the example above.

If you access the article via a library subscription database, you should include the DOI (Digital Object Identifier) in your reference, if a DOI is available. A DOI is a permanent link for an electronic document. This takes the form of a unique number that identifies the article and should be placed after ‘[Online]’ in the reference.

Some databases and electronic journals provide persistent links or permalinks (a URL that should get you directly to the article). If there is no DOI, use the persistent link or permalink. If there is no persistent link or permalink available and your article is from a database, we would recommend just listing the name of the database you got it from. This is because if you copy the URL in the address bar from the database following a search, it is unlikely to work for someone else using it to find the article.

**Examples showing DOI, persistent link and database name**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>


Systematic reviews

A systematic review collects published and unpublished research on the same intervention, topic or question. It assesses the quality of each study and provides health professionals with a summary of evidence from the best.

Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

6.3 Printed newspaper articles

In-text citation:

(Author, year of publication) or Author (year of publication) says…

Full reference:
Author, A. (year of publication) ‘Title of the article’, Title of the Newspaper, date, page number.

Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

When there is no named author for an article, use the name of the newspaper for your in-text citation, and start your reference with the title of the newspaper (in italics). e.g. The Times (2008) ‘Bank accounts’, 14 June, p. 7.

6.4 Online newspaper articles

In-text citation:

(Author, year of publication) or Author (year of publication) says...

Full reference:

Author, A. (year of publication) ‘Title of the article’, Title of the Newspaper, date [Online]. Available at URL (Accessed date).

Examples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Note that if you accessed a newspaper article from a database, you should format the reference as in the second example above.
When there is no named author for an article, use the name of the newspaper for your in-text citation, and start your reference with the title of the newspaper (in italics).
7 OU module materials

When you reference OU module materials you should continue to follow the author-date format. If the item you are referencing has a named author or authors, use that author’s name in your reference as you would for any other item. If not, use ‘The Open University’ as the author.

**Note that:** this guidance is standard across the OU. However, if your module asks you to reference OU module materials in a different way, please follow your module’s guidance. If you are unsure, contact your tutor.

7.1 Module texts

**In-text citation:**

(Author, year of publication) or Author (year of publication) says ...

**Full reference:**

Author, A. (year of publication) *Title of Book*, Place of publication, Publisher.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Example</th>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Example</th>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Referencing a standalone unit or block with a named author
### Referencing a standalone unit or block with no named author

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Referencing a unit within a block with a named author

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Referencing a unit within a block with no named author

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Please note that some faculties would prefer that you add a page number to in-text citations of module materials, even where you are not directly quoting material. You can find more information on this in Section 7.9.

Please note, a module code may appear in your reference as part of the title of an item, but the module code itself is not a component part of the reference.

7.2 Copublished module texts

Some modules use books published jointly by The Open University and another publisher and these are referred to as ‘copublished’ books.

**In-text citation:**

(Author, year of publication) or Author (year of publication) says ...

**Full reference:**

Author, A. (year of publication) *Title of Book*, Place of publication of first publisher, Publisher/Place of publication of second publisher, Publisher.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

7.3 Online module materials

The referencing format for online module materials can be used for a variety of different types of online material, including study guides, study planners, activities and quizzes. For the publication date, give the year in which your current module started.

Print-on-demand items should be referenced according to the type of document they are derived from. For example, an online study unit should be referenced accordingly, following the guidance below.

**In-text citation:**
(Author, year of module start) or Author (year of module start) says ...

**Full reference:**


---

**Examples**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

---

**Multiple references from one author**

---

**Examples**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

---

23
Please note, a module code may appear in your reference as part of the title of an item, but the module code itself is not a component part of the reference.

### 7.4 Module readings

Module readings may be available in printed volumes known as readers, but they may also be found at the end of book chapters, or online.

The full reference to each reading should include the reader number or page numbers of the entire reading. If specific pages within or sections of a reading are referred to this can then be done in the in-text citation.

**Module readers**

A reader is a collection of previously published works.

**In-text citation:**

(Author, year of publication of reading) or Author (year of publication of reading) says ...

**Full reference:**

Author, A. (year of publication of reading) ‘Title of article’, in Editor, A. (ed[s]) (year of publication of reader) Title of Reader, Place of publication, Publisher.
Readings integrated into other types of publication

You may need to reference readings contained in other types of publication, for example at the back of a module textbook.

**In-text citation:**

(Author, year of publication of reading) or Author (year of publication of reading) says ...

**Full reference:**

Author, A. (year of publication of reading) ‘Title of reading’, in Editor, A. (ed[s]) (year of publication of reader) *Title*, Place of publication, Publisher.

---

**Example**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

---

**Online readings**

In-text citation:
(Author, year of publication of reading) or Author (year of publication of reading) says ...

**Full reference:**


**Example**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**7.5 Module audiovisual materials**

Audiovisual materials include video clips, whole videos, audio recordings and DVDs.

**Online audiovisual materials**

**In-text citation:**

(The Open University, year of module start) or The Open University (year of module start) shows ...

**Full reference:**

The Open University (year of module start) ‘Title of audio/video’ [Audio/Video/Video clip], Module code and title. Available at URL (Accessed date).

**Example**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## DVDs

**In-text citation:**

(The Open University, year of publication) or The Open University (year of publication) shows ...

**Full reference:**

The Open University (year of publication) ‘Title of DVD’ [DVD], *Module code and title*. Place of publication, Publisher.

**Example**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

## 7.6 Figures, diagrams and tables

Regardless of the creator of the figure, diagram, illustration or table you are referencing, you should cite the overall author or editor of the work in which you found it.

**In-text citation:**

(Author of book, year of publication, page reference of item) or Author of book (year of publication, page reference of item) shows ...

**Full reference:**
Author of book (year of publication) Title of Book, Place of publication, Publisher, page reference of item, type of item.

Examples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In Figure 1 'The probability and extent of potential harms' (Bromley et al., 2009, p. 313)</td>
<td>Bromley, S., Clarke, J., Hinchliffe, S. and Taylor, S. (2009) Exploring Social Lives, Milton Keynes, The Open University, p. 313, figure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Table 3 (The Open University, 2009, p.47) ...</td>
<td>The Open University (2009) Offprints Booklet: Memory and Communication, Milton Keynes, The Open University, p. 47, table.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note that:

If you have viewed the illustration/figure/diagram/table online, your in-text citation would remain as shown above but you should reference it as you would any other web page and add the item medium in square brackets:


7.7 Secondary referencing in module materials

If you wish to cite an author whose work is discussed in a module unit but you haven’t read the original, you need to make this clear in what you write. For example:

In-text citation:

Original Author (date) cited in Author (date, page) identifies ...

Full reference:

In the references list you would provide details only for the source you have actually read:

Author of book (year of publication) Title of Book, Place of publication, Publisher.
Examples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

7.8 Citing materials from another module

Citing materials from another module with a named author

Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Citing materials from another module with no named author

Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
7.9 Page numbers

Please note that, in addition to author and date, some faculties also require you to add a page number (where available) to the in-text citation for module materials, even when you are not directly quoting material. This is to assist tutors in locating the section of the module materials you are referring to.

**Example**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Moohan, 2008, p. 24)</td>
<td>Tutor/Lecturer (year) Title of seminar/lecture/presentation [Seminar to Module code tutor group, location], Date.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This rule applies to some or all modules within the following faculties:

- Arts (module codes starting A)
- Education (module codes starting with E)
- HSC (module codes starting with K)
- Science (module codes starting with S).

If you are unsure, check your module guidance to see if you need to include page numbers.

**Note that:**

If you are using bibliographic management software, you may need to manually add in page numbers.

7.10 Lectures, seminars and presentations

**In-text citation:**

Tutor/Lecturer (year) states that ...

**Full reference:**

Tutor/Lecturer (year) *Title of seminar/lecture/presentation* [Seminar to Module code tutor group, location], Date.
Seminars on OU Live

In-text citation:

Tutor/Lecturer (year) states that …

Full reference:

Tutor/Lecturer (year) ‘Title’ *OU Live recording for Module code* [Online]. Available at URL (Accessed date).

Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

7.11 Student-generated content

TMAs

Referencing your own TMA isn’t generally part of standard academic practice, as a TMA will not have been formally published. However, if you are asked to do so, we recommend the following format:

Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
## Student OU Live presentations

**Example**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
8 Audiovisual materials

See Module audiovisual materials (Section 7.5) for guidance on referencing DVDs that are part of your module materials.

8.1 TV programmes

In-text citation:

(Title of Programme, year of broadcast) or Title of Programme (year of broadcast) shows ...

Full reference:

Title of Programme (year of broadcast) Channel, date of transmission.

Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Note that:

If you are accessing the programme online, for example via the BBC iPlayer, then you would amend the reference as follows:


8.2 Radio programmes

In-text citation:

(Title of programme, year of transmission).

Full reference:

Title of programme (year of transmission), Channel, date of transmission.
Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Today, 2013)</td>
<td>Today (2013) BBC Radio 4, 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>December.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note that:

If you are accessing the radio programme online, for example via the BBC iPlayer, then you would amend the reference as follows:


8.3 Films

In-text citation:

(Title of film, year of release) or Title of film (year of release) shows ...

Full reference:

Title of Film (year of release) Directed by Director Name [Film]. Place of distribution if available, Distribution company.

Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Lord of the Rings: The Two</td>
<td>Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers (2003) Directed by Peter Jackson [Film].</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8.4 DVDs

In-text citation:
(‘Title of episode’, year of release) or ‘Title of episode’ (year of release) shows ...

**Full reference:**

‘Title of episode’ (year of release) *Title of Programme*, series number if available, episode number if available. Directed by Director’s Name. Written by Writer’s Name. Date of original broadcast if available [DVD]. Place of distribution, Distribution company.

**Example**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**8.5 Audio CDs**

**In-text citation:**

(Artist, year of release) or Artist (year of release) shows ...

**Full reference:**

Artist (year of release) *Title* [CD]. Place of distribution, Distribution company.

**Example**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
8.6 Songs

On audio CD

In-text citation:

(Artist, year of distribution) or Artist (year of distribution) shows ...

Full reference:

Artist (year of distribution) Title of recording [CD]. Place of distribution, Distribution company.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Song lyrics

In-text citation:

(Lyricist, year of distribution) or Lyricist (year of distribution) shows ...

Full reference:

Lyricist (year of distribution) Title of song. Place of distribution, Distribution company.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Musical scores

In-text citation:

(Composer, year of distribution) or Composer (year of distribution) shows ...

Full reference:

Composer (year of publication) Title of Score, notes on version of score. Place of publication, Publisher.

Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

8.7 YouTube item

In-text citation:

(*Title of Item, date uploaded) or *Title of Item* (date uploaded) says ...

Full reference:

*Title of Item* (date uploaded) YouTube video, added by Name of uploader [Online]. Available at URL (Accessed date).

Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
8.8 iTunes or other downloads

**In-text citation:**

(Artist, year of distribution) or Artist (year of distribution) shows ...

**Full reference:**

Artist (year of distribution) *Title of Recording. Name of download site [Download]. Available at URL (date accessed).*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
9 Works of art and visual sources

9.1 Works of art

This section is intended to cover anything that can be considered a work of art, including images, paintings, sculptures, installations and so on.

In-text citation:

(Artist, year of production) or Artist (year of production) illustrates ...

Full reference:

Artist, A. (year of production) Title of Image [Medium]. Collection/institution in which the work is held, Location.

Examples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

If you have viewed an image of a work of art online, you should reference it as an online image, regardless of the original medium.

In-text citation:

(Artist, year of production) or Artist (year of production) illustrates ...

Full reference:

Artist, A. (year of production) *Title of Image* [Medium]. Name of collection [Online]. Available at URL (Accessed date).

Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Please note, where an original artist name is not available, begin the reference with the title of the work. If an image has no title, start your reference with a description of the image in italics.

9.2 Online images

**In-text citation:**

Artist/photographer (year of production) illustrates ...

**Full reference:**

Artist/photographer (year of production) *Title of image* [Online]. Available at URL (Accessed date).

**Example**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Photographs in online collections, e.g. Flickr

**In-text citation:**

Photographer (year of production) illustrates ...

**Full reference:**

Photographer (year of production) *Title of Photo, Title of Collection*, [Online]. Available at URL (Accessed date).

**Example**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Where the photographer or artist is not known, start your reference with the *Title of Image*.

Where none of the usual details are known, i.e. artist/photographer, date, title of image, start with *[Subject of the image]*. The in-text reference would then read *(Woman eating chocolate, n.d.)* and the full reference would read:


### 9.3 Exhibition catalogues

**In-text citation:**

(Author, year of production) or Author (year of production) noted that ...

**Full reference:**

Author, A. (year of production) *Title of Exhibition*. Exhibition held at Location, date of exhibition [Exhibition catalogue].

### Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Please note, where an author name is not available, begin the reference with the title of the exhibition. Note too that if details of the exhibition location and date are not readily available, this information can be omitted.
9.4 Plays and live performances

Plays

In-text citation:

(Title of Play, year of performance) or Title of Play (year of performance) illustrates that ...

Full reference:

Title of Play by Author (year of performance). Directed by Director [Venue, Location. Date seen].

Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Live concerts

In-text citation:

(Composer, year of performance) or Composer (year of performance) illustrates that ...

Full reference:

Composer, A. (year of performance) *Title* [if available]. Performed by Performer conducted by Conductor Name if available [Venue, Location. Date seen].

Examples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
10 Online/electronic materials

10.1 Personal or organisational websites

In-text citation:

(Author, year of publication/last updated) or Author (year of publication/last updated) states ...

Full reference:

Author, A. (year of publication/last updated) *Title of Website* [Online]. Available at URL (Accessed date).

Examples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Note that:

Use (n.d.) for websites with no date (see second example above). Use the title of the website if you cannot identify its author. Use the website’s URL if you cannot identify its author or title. However, if a web page has no clear author or title, its suitability as an academic source may need to be questioned.

10.2 Online documents

In-text citation:

(Author, year of publication if given) or Author (year of publication if given) states ...

Full reference:

Author, A. (year of publication if given) *Title of Document* [Online], Place of publication, Publisher. Available at URL (Accessed date).
10.3 Blogs

In-text citation:

(Author, year of publication/last updated) or Author (year of publication/last updated) states ...

Full reference:


Note that:

Some blog authors may choose to remain anonymous by using an alias. Use this instead of surname and initials if that is all that is available.
Comments on blogs

Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

10.4 Wikis

**In-text citation:**

(Title of wiki, year last modified) or Title of wiki (year last modified) states ...

**Full reference:**

Title of wiki (year last modified) *Article Title* [Online], date last modified. Available at URL (Accessed date).

**Examples**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
10.5 Twitter

In-text citation:

(Author, year of publication) or Author (year of publication) states ...

Full reference:

Author of tweet (year of publication) Full tweet, date of tweet [Twitter]. Available at URL (Accessed date).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Note that:

To find the URL for the individual tweet you are citing, click on the time/date stamp or the ‘Details’ link beneath the tweet in the feed, and this will take you to the unique web page for that tweet. You should include the full text of the tweet in your reference. If the author’s name is not given in their profile, use their username instead (see second example above).

10.6 Podcasts

In-text citation:

(Author/presenter, year of publication) or Author/presenter (year of publication) states ...

Full reference:

Author/presenter (year of publication) ‘Title of podcast’, Title of Internet Site [Podcast]. Date. Available at URL (Accessed date).
Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Please note, where an author or presenter name is not available, begin the reference with the title of the work.
11 Conference papers

In-text citation:

(Author, year of publication) or Author (year of publication) says ...

Full reference:

Author, A. (year of publication) ‘Title of paper’, Title of Conference. Location, date of conference. Place of publication, Publisher, page numbers.

Full reference [online conference papers]:


Unpublished conference papers:

Author, A. (year of publication) ‘Title of paper’, paper presented at Title of Conference. Location, date of conference.

Examples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
12 Reports

This section covers print and online reports.

In-text citation:

(Author, year of publication) or Author (year of publication) says ...

Full reference:

Author, A. (year of publication), Title, Place of publication, Publisher, report number, if given.

Full reference [online reports]:

Author, A. (year of publication), Title [Online]. Available at URL (Accessed date).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
13 Software

13.1 Computer programs

The author or developer of a computer program may be an individual or a company. The date is the year the application was first released.

In-text citation:

(Author or developer, year of release) or Author or developer (year of release) shows ...

Full reference:

Author, A. (year of release) Program Title (Version) [Computer program]. Available at URL (Accessed date).

Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Note that:

If you have accessed the computer program from a disk or other offline source, instead of the URL you should provide details of the distributor and address.

13.2 Mobile application

The author or developer of a mobile application may be an individual or a company. The date is the year the app was first released.

In-text citation:

(Author or developer, year of release) or Author or developer (year of release) shows ...

Full reference:

Author, A. (year of release) Application Title (Version) [Mobile application]. Available at URL (Accessed date).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
14 Personal communications

14.1 Emails

In-text citation:

(Sender, year of email) or Sender (year of email) says …

Full reference:

Sender, A. (year of email) Email to Recipient Name, date of message.

Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Note that:

You should always check with the author of the email that they are happy for you to use its content before using the material.

14.2 Forum messages

In-text citation:

(Author, year of message) or Author (year of message) says ...

Full reference:

Author, A. (year of message) ‘Subject of message’, forum message to Name of the Forum, date posted.

Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Note that:
You should always check with the author of the forum message that they are happy for you to use its content before using the material.

14.3 Telephone calls

In-text citation:

(Name of Speaker, year of call) or Name of Speaker (year of call) says ...

Full reference:

Speaker, A. (year of call) Telephone conversation with Recipient Name, date of phone call.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Skype

Skype conversations should be treated in the same way as telephone conversations, with the medium amended accordingly:


14.4 Personal letters

In-text citation:

(Sender, year of letter) or Sender (year of letter) stated that ...

Full reference:

Sender, A. (year of letter) Letter to Recipient Name, date of letter.
14.5 Unpublished interviews

**In-text citation:**

(Interviewee, year of interview) or Interviewee (year of interview) claimed that ...

**Full reference:**

Interviewee, A. (year of interview) Unpublished interview conducted by Interviewer Name, date of interview.

---

14.6 Second Life

To identify the speaker and recipient(s) in a communication or message in Second Life, use the avatar display names.

**In-text citation:**

(Speaker, year of communication) or Speaker (year of communication) noted ...

**Full reference**

Speaker (year of communication) Second Life communication with Name of Recipient, date of communication.
Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
15 Theses

In-text citation:

(Author, year of submission/publication) or Author (year of submission/publication) says ...

Full reference:

Author, A. (year of submission/publication) Title: Subtitle, designation, Place of submission/publication, Awarding institution.

Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Note that:

‘Designation’ refers to the publication status and academic level of the thesis you are citing. For unpublished theses, include the word ‘unpublished’, as in the example given above.
16 Legal and legislative material

This section covers the general referencing of Parliamentary Bills, statutes and legal cases for students studying subjects other than Law. It does not apply to students studying any Law module.

If you are studying W101, W102, W202, W203, W302, W330, W340 or W350, you should refer to The OU Law School guide to legal citations and references.

If you are studying a University of Law module (W200, W201, W221, W222, W223, W224, W300 or W301), you should use the guidance provided in your module material.

Parliamentary or Assembly Bills

In-text citation:

(Name of Bill. Country. Parliament [if UK or Scottish Parliament]. Name of House/Assembly, year) or according to the Name of Bill (Country. Parliament [if UK or Scottish Parliament]. Name of House/Assembly, year) ...

Full reference:

Country. Parliament [if UK or Scottish Parliament]. Name of House/Assembly (year) Name of Bill. Place of publication, Publisher (Bill number).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examples</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
UK statutes (Acts of Parliament/Assembly)

Pre-1963 statutes

In-text citation:

*(Short title of Act and year, Regnal year Abbreviated name of sovereign, chapter number)* or as enacted in *Short title of Act and year* (Regnal year Abbreviated name of sovereign, chapter number) ...

**Full reference:**

*Short title of Act and year* (Regnal year Abbreviated name of sovereign, chapter number).

**Examples**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The <em>Act of Supremacy 1534</em> (26 Hen. 8, c. 1)</td>
<td><em>Act of Supremacy 1534</em> (26 Hen. 8, c. 1).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Post-1963 statutes

In-text citation:

(Country. *Short title of Act*) or s.10(4)(6) of the Act (Country. *Short title of Act*) states that ...

**Full reference:**

Country. *Name of Act: Name of sovereign. Chapter number*/Act identifying code* (Year). Place of publication, Publisher.

**Examples**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
## Legal cases

**In-text citation:**

\[(Name \ of \ parties \ involved \ [Year])\] or in \textit{Name of parties involved} [Year] ...

**Full reference:**

Name of parties involved [Year] Volume number if available and abbreviated name of report and first page

### Examples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

---
17 Patents

In-text citation:

(Inventor, year) or Inventor (year) says ...

Full reference:

Inventor, A., Assignee name if not also inventor, (Year) Title, Country of issue and patent number.

Examples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Note that:

For online patents add [Online], Available at URL and Accessed date, as in the second example above.
18 Standards

In-text citation:

(Organisation, year) or Organisation (year) says ...

Full reference:

Organisation (year) Number: *Title of the Standard*, Place of publication, Publisher.

### Examples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Note that:**

For online standards add [Online], Available at URL and Accessed date, as in the second example above.
19 Maps

In-text citation:

(Publisher, year) ...

Full reference:

Publisher (year) Title, Sheet number, Scale, Place of publication, Publisher (Series).

Examples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-text citation</th>
<th>Full reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Note that:

For online maps add [Online], Available at URL and Accessed date, as in the third example above. A tile number may be provided instead of a sheet number, so this should be included, as in the example above.
20 Faculty-specific examples

Within your subject area there may be very specific resource types for which you need to provide references. Those that need specific treatment are listed below, by faculty name.

20.1 Health and Social Care

Law material

Statute law

- When referring to a statute, it is sufficient to refer to the short title of the Act and the year in which it received Royal Assent; for example, the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984.

- When referring to a section of a statute, you must be more specific and cite the section as well as the statute; for example, section 24(1), Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 or the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984, section 24(1).

- In some modules, you are provided with law resources which set out certain sections of a statute or summarise the meaning and purpose of a statute. You should refer to these law resources by the title of the statute they relate to; for example, the law resource on care orders should be cited as the Children Act 1989, section 31.

Case law

- When referring to a case, you need to provide the case name and, if you have been given it in the module materials, the date in brackets; for example, R v Moloney (1985). Include the full citation if you have been given it; for example, Young v Bristol Aeroplane Co. Ltd [1944] 2, All ER 293.

- The citation should appear in the same way in both the body of your assignment and the reference list.

- You are expected to follow the legal convention of using italics for the case name, as in the examples above.

- The style of brackets is also legal convention:
  - In the example R v Moloney (1985), the date is in round brackets, which means that it is not important to know the year of the case in order to find it within a set of legal reports. This is because the volumes of the law reports are numbered sequentially.
  - The example Young v Bristol Aeroplane Co. Ltd [1944] 2, All ER 293 has the date in square brackets, which means that the year is important in finding the case in a set of law reports,
usually because numbering of the volumes restarts at the beginning of each year.

- The set of numbers and letters after the year denote the volume, the name of the law report and the first page of the case. For example, for the case *Young v Bristol Aeroplane Co. Ltd* [1944] 2, All ER 293:
  - the case name is ‘*Young v Bristol Aeroplane Co. Ltd*’
  - the case is in the 1944 volume, in particular volume 2
  - ‘All ER’ is the abbreviation for All England Law Reports
  - the case report begins on page 293.

### Placement agency information

References to the placement agency should be **anonymised** to preserve confidentiality, as in the following example.

**In-text citation:**

(Placement agency, 2006, p. 2)

**Full reference:**

[Generic/anonymised reference] (year of publication) ‘[anonymised] title’, Place of publication, [anonymised] Publisher details.

**Example**


**Taken from a full reference** which without anonymity would be:


**Note that:**

You might be asked to supply your tutor with the agency/employer name if there is any doubt about the authenticity of the reference.