Referencing ejournals

1. Introduction

When you refer to another source in your work or assignments, you need to provide a reference. This activity will help you to understand the basics of referencing ejournals.

This activity forms a set covering referencing. If you haven't already done so, we recommend you complete the [Introduction to referencing activity](#) before starting this one.

Learning outcomes

By the end of this activity, you should:
- know what an in-text citation is;
- understand how to create an in-text citation;
- understand how to create a full reference.

2. Referencing styles

Referencing styles are guides that help you create your references.
They assist by showing you:
- the information to include in your reference
- how your reference should be formatted.

You do not read a referencing style from beginning to end. Instead you focus on the parts that show you how to reference the type of resource you have read. This activity will focus on how you create a reference to an ejournal.

Which referencing style?

There are lots of different referencing styles. Are you an OU student? If yes, your module website will contain the referencing style you need to use.

For those studying at other institutions you will need to find out which referencing style you need to use. For this activity non OU students will find it easiest to concentrate on the Cite Them Right Harvard options.

This activity will provide example references using the OU Harvard referencing style and the Cite Them Right Harvard referencing style. You only need to look at one style, choose which now.

3. In-text citations

An in-text citation is a marker that tells your reader that part of your work comes from an external source (e.g. a database). This could be a direct quote or someone else's thoughts that you have written in your own words.

In-text citations are short. They commonly contain:
- Author or authors
- Date of publication
- Page numbers (if you are referring to a particular section or quoting)

4. Creating an in-text citation

Choose whether you want to look at the OU Harvard referencing style or the Cite Them Right Harvard style (shortened to CTR Harvard). You only need to look at one.

Citing an ejournal with one author (OU Harvard)

Examples

Hummingbirds build their nests high in trees and shrubs (McAlister, 2018). According to McAlister (2018), hummingbirds build their nests high in trees and shrubs.

Both examples are valid ways to incorporate your in-text citations to your work. Full details must always be provided in your reference list.

Citing an ejournal with multiple authors (OU Harvard)

Examples with two authors

Evidence from Patel and Begum (2012) supports this claim. Further evidence supports this claim (Patel and Begum, 2012).

When referring to an ejournal with two authors include both names and link with the word 'and'.

Examples with three or more authors

Additional evidence (Godfrey et al., 2009) supports this claim.
Evidence from Godfrey et al. (2009) supports this claim.

When referring to an ejournal with three or more authors include the first author and then the words 'et al' followed by a full stop. Et al. means: and others.

Citing a short quote within a sentence (OU Harvard)

A short quote can be up to two to three lines long. Short quotes are surrounded by quotation marks. When including a direct quote within a sentence you have written, you should include the publication date and page number in brackets, either in the lead-in to the quote or at the end of the sentence.

Examples

Henson (2008, p. 256) talks about 'the importance of learning academic skills' to develop employability.
Henson talks about 'the importance of learning academic skills' to develop employability (2008, p. 256).

Citing a long quote (OU Harvard)

Larger quotes should be displayed in a separate paragraph and indented from your main text.

Example

There is much data available on the eruptions of volcanoes across the world.

> The 2018 eruption was one of the largest at Kilauea in the past 200 years, but Kilauea is just one volcano. There have been 16 new subaerial volcanic eruptions so far in 2019, two of which occurred in or near the ocean (12). Just one, Piton de la Fournaise, is in the tropics and surrounded by nutrient-depleted waters.
> (Ducklow and Plank, 2019, p. 979)

Citing an ejournal with one author (CTR Harvard)

Examples

Hummingbirds build their nests high in trees and shrubs (McAlister, 2018).

According to McAlister (2018), hummingbirds build their nests high in trees and shrubs.

Both examples are valid ways to incorporate your in-text citations to your work. Full details must always be provided in your reference list.

Citing an ejournal with multiple authors (CTR Harvard)

Examples with two or three authors

Evidence from Patel and Begum (2012) supports this claim.
Further evidence supports this claim (Patel and Begum, 2012).

When referring to an ejournal with two authors include both names and link with the word 'and'.

This is supported by evidence from other studies (Kante, Adebayo and Okonkwo, 2010).
Evidence from Kante, Adebayo and Okonkwo (2010) supports this claim.

When referring to an ejournal with three authors, list all three names, linking the second and third authors with the word 'and'.

Examples with four or more authors

Additional evidence (Godfrey et al., 2009) supports this claim.
Evidence from Godfrey et al. (2009) supports this claim.

When referring to an ejournal with four or more authors include the first author and then the words 'et al' followed by a full stop. Et al. means: and others.

Citing a short quote within a sentence (CTR Harvard)

A short quote can be up to two to three lines long. Short quotes are surrounded by quotation marks. When including a direct quote within a sentence you have written, you should include the publication date and page number in brackets, either in the lead-in to the quote or at the end of the sentence.

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5. Elements of a full reference

In-text citations are brief, often they only contain an author name and publication date. For every in-text citation you have included within your work, there should be a detailed reference in your reference list. These references contain enough detail to allow anyone reading your work to find the items you have referenced.

What to include in a reference

The key pieces of information you need to include for ejournals are:
- the author's surname and initials, plus the date the article was published
- the full title of the article, and the title of the ejournal
- volume number, issue number and page numbers (if available)
- online details and the date you last accessed the article, or the DOI

6. Creating a full reference (OU Harvard)

Different referencing styles request that you include the same information when referencing ejournals. How the references are formatted varies slightly between referencing styles.

If you are interested in creating a full reference using the OU Harvard referencing style, this step by step guide will take you through the order and format required for a full reference.

For the same guidance using the Cite Them Right Harvard referencing style, move to the next section.

Step 1: Author surname and initial

Start with the author(s) surname(s) and initials:

Kohler, N. and Turner, P.

Step 2: Year of publication

Add the year the article was published, in brackets:

Kohler, N. and Turner, P. (2019)

Step 3: Full title of the article

Add the full title of the article, in single quote marks, followed by a comma:

Kohler, N. and Turner, P. (2019) 'Distribution and Movements of Atlantic Shark Species: A 52-Year Retrospective Atlas of Mark and Recapture Data',

Step 4: Full title of ejournal

Add the full title of the ejournal, in Italics, followed by a comma:

Kohler, N. and Turner, P. (2019) 'Distribution and Movements of Atlantic Shark Species: A 52-Year Retrospective Atlas of Mark and Recaputure Data', *Marine Fisheries Review,*

Step 5: Volume, issue number and pages

Add the volume number, abbreviated to 'vol.', followed by a comma. Enter the issue number, abbreviated to 'no.' followed by a comma. Provide the page numbers, if available, using 'pp.' to denote a page run:

Kohler, N. and Turner, P. (2019) 'Distribution and Movements of Atlantic Shark Species: A 52-Year Retrospective Atlas of Mark and Recaputure Data', *Marine Fisheries Review,* vol. 81, no. 2, pp. 6-10

Step 6: [Online] and URL or DOI

Leave a space then add [Online] followed by a full stop. Add 'Available at:' followed by the URL, or DOI if the article has one. Enter the (Accessed: date) followed by a full stop:

Kohler, N. and Turner, P. (2019) 'Distribution and Movements of Atlantic Shark Species: A 52-Year Retrospective Atlas of Mark and Recapture Data', *Marine Fisheries Review,* vol. 81, no. 2, pp. 6-10 [Online]. Available at: http://libezproxy.open.ac.uk/login?url=https://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=bth&AN=141623346&site=ehost-live&scope=site (Accessed 2 June 2020).

Or

Kohler, N. and Turner, P. (2019) 'Distribution and Movements of Atlantic Shark Species: A 52-Year Retrospective Atlas of Mark and Recapture Data', *Marine Fisheries Review,* vol. 81, no. 2, pp. 6-10 [Online]. DOI: 10.7755/MFR.81.2.1 (Accessed 2 June 2020).

7. Creating a full reference (CTR Harvard)

If you are interested in creating a full reference using the Cite Them Right Harvard referencing style this step by step guide will take you through the order and format required for a full reference.

Otherwise move to the next section.

Step 1: Author surname and initial

Start with the author(s) surname(s) and initials:

Kohler, N. and Turner, P.

Step 2: Year of publication

Add the year the article was published, in brackets:

Kohler, N. and Turner, P. (2019)

Step 3: Full title of the article

Add the full title of the article, in single quote marks, followed by a comma:

Kohler, N. and Turner, P. (2019) 'Distribution and Movements of Atlantic Shark Species: A 52-Year Retrospective Atlas of Mark and Recapture Data',

Step 4: Full title of ejournal

Add the full title of the ejournal, in Italics, followed by a comma:

Kohler, N. and Turner, P. (2019) 'Distribution and Movements of Atlantic Shark Species: A 52-Year Retrospective Atlas of Mark and Recapture Data', *Marine Fisheries Review,*

Step 5: Volume, issue number and pages

Add the volume number, followed by the issue number in brackets. Provide the page numbers, if available, using 'pp.' to denote a page run, followed by a full stop:

Kohler, N. and Turner, P. (2019) 'Distribution and Movements of Atlantic Shark Species: A 52-Year Retrospective Atlas of Mark and Recapture Data', *Marine Fisheries Review,* 81(2), pp. 6-10.

Step 6: [Online] and URL or DOI

If the article has a URL, enter Available at: URL, followed by the date you last accessed it in brackets. If it has a DOI number, enter doi: number. Place a full stop afterwards:

Kohler, N. and Turner, P. (2019) 'Distribution and Movements of Atlantic Shark Species: A 52-Year Retrospective Atlas of Mark and Recapture Data', *Marine Fisheries Review,* 81(2), pp. 6-10. Available at: http://libezproxy.open.ac.uk/login?url=https://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=bth&AN=141623346&site=ehost-live&scope=site (Accessed: 2 June 2020).

Or

Kohler, N. and Turner, P. (2019) 'Distribution and Movements of Atlantic Shark Species: A 52-Year Retrospective Atlas of Mark and Recapture Data', *Marine Fisheries Review,* 81(2), pp. 6-10. doi: 10.7755/MFR.81.2.1.

8. Quiz

How much do you know about referencing ejournals? Why not have a go at our quiz to find out?

Question 1 of 3

True or false, you need to read all the information in a referencing style.
1. True
2. False

Question 1 Feedback for Option 1

Are you sure you must read all of a referencing style in its entirety?
Your answer is incorrect

Question 1 Feedback for Option 2

To reference a resource, find the referencing style you have been asked to use, find the section for the type of resource you wish to reference and follow that. You do not need to read a referencing style in its entirety.
Your answer is correct!

Question 2 of 3

Choose the correct option. An in-text citation may include:
1. (Author, URL, Date)
2. (Author, Title, Date)
3. (Author, Date)

Question 2 Feedback for Option 1

An in-text citation is pointer to your reader that you have used an external source. An in-text citation is very brief it does not include the URL of the work you are referencing.
Your answer is incorrect.

Question 2 Feedback for Option 2

An in-text citation is pointer to your reader that you have used an external source. An in-text citation is very brief it does not include the title of the work you are referencing.
Your answer is incorrect

Question 2 Feedback for Option 3

An in-text citation includes an author and a date of publication.
Your answer is correct!

Question 3 of 3

A full reference to a complete journal may include the following (select all that apply):
1. URL
2. Author(s)
3. Date the article was published
4. Titles of authors (Prof., Dr., Mr., Ms., etc.)
5. Title of article
6. Volume, issues and page numbers

Question 3 Feedback

A full reference to a complete journal article may include the following:
URL or DOI
Author(s)
Date the article was published
Title of article
Volume, issues and page numbers

9. Summary

We have covered:
- What to include in an in-text citation.
- What to include in a full reference.
- How referencing styles can help you.

There are many different referencing styles. Your module or course will provide you with details of which one you should be using, along with the relevant guidelines for that style. If you are unsure, you will find the information in your assessment or study guide. If you are publishing your research, your publisher will have information on which guidelines you should follow. And remember, referencing styles are there to help you acknowledge your sources.

Next Steps

This activity has focused on referencing ejournals. Being Digital also covers:
- Referencing books

- [Referencing websites](#)