

## Citation Information and Help for Students

This handout lists current resources for students on the three major citation styles: APA, MLA, and Chicago. Below are what we consider to be the best online resources to recommend to students and are the ones we use in the Writing Centre.

*Note: The Purdue OWL used to be an oft-recommended online citation resource, but the Writing Centre does not recommend it wholesale to students anymore due to its confusing central advertisement for the citation software Citation Machine that many students assume is the resource they are being directed to use when they visit the site, but which provides error-laden citations. If you recommend the Purdue OWL to students, we suggest being very explicit that they should not use the “Cite your source automatically” box but, rather, the material from the left-hand menu.*

### APA Style

We cannot recommend the [APA Style’s official website](#) enough. The pages most likely to be helpful for students are

- [APA Sample Student Paper](#): An annotated student paper – a great visual of what proper formatting and referencing looks like
- [APA Paper Format](#): Details of APA formatting (see, in particular, the sections on title page set up and headings)
- [Reference Examples](#): Easy-to-search rules for how to create reference entries for different types of sources
- [In-Text Citations](#): Information about how to format parenthetical and narrative in-text citations
- [APA Style Blog](#): Answers to APA citing and formatting questions from APA Style experts

The Writing Centre’s [APA Quick Guide](#) provides the reference formats with examples and corresponding in-text citations for common sources students use.

### MLA Style

The [MLA Style Center](#) is the official MLA website. The pages most likely to be helpful for students are

- [Works-Cited-List Entries](#): Easily searchable example works cited entries for different types of sources
- [Sample Essays](#): Real student essays displaying MLA formatting and citation

The Writing Centre’s [MLA Quick Guide](#) provides the works cited formats with examples and corresponding in-text citations for common sources students use.

### Chicago Style

The [official Chicago Style website](#) offers detailed information about both CMOS citation systems – Notes and Bibliography (the most common) and Author-Date. The pages students may find most useful are

- [Notes and Bibliography: Sample Citations](#): Searchable example footnotes and bibliography entries for various types of sources
- [Author-Date: Sample Citations](#): Searchable example references and in-text citations for different types of sources

The Writing Centre’s [Chicago Quick Guide](#) provides the note and bibliography formats with examples for common types of sources students use.