The Council of Science Editors (formerly the Council of Biology Editors—CBE) REFERENCE FORMAT

The manual, Scientific Style and Format by the Council of Science Editors (CSE) (formerly the Council of Biology Editors or CBE) is the reference format we’ll use in our biology course for all article reviews, formal lab reports, and research projects.

**The name-year system**

When using the name-year system, key cited sources to an alphabetically arranged list of references. In the name-year format, the date of publication immediately follows the author's name. **The following example uses the name-year system.**

The discovery in normal cells of genes capable of causing tumors can be considered a milestone in cancer research (Stehelin and others 1976). Recent work (Sarkar, Zhao, and Sarkar 1995) has confirmed the importance of this finding. As Bishop and Varmus (1985) point out, numerous results now suggest that changes in these genes transform normal cells into cancerous ones.

Here are the References entries for these three sources:

Bishop JM, Varmus HE. 1985. Functions and origins of retroviral transforming genes. In:


Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press. p 999-1019.


**CSE REFERENCE LIST GUIDELINES**

**BASIC FORMAT:** List the References at the end of your research paper but before any appendixes or explanatory notes. Center the title References (Cited References or Consulted References in some cases) and then list the works you have cited in the paper; do not include other works you may have read. Double-space throughout.

**ORGANIZATION OF THE LIST:** Alphabetize entries by author’s LAST NAME. If no author is given, use [Anonymous] then continue on the rest of the required entry information. **SEE ABOVE SAMPLE:** notice alphabetical order, double spacing on everything, and the indentation pattern (1st line flush against left margin, 2nd & subsequent lines of a source are indented 3 spaces.

**AUTHORS' NAMES:** List authors' names last name first. Use initials for first and middle names, with no periods after the initials and no space between them. Do not use a comma between the last name and the initials. Use all authors' names if a work has up to ten authors; for a work with eleven or more authors, list the first ten names followed by a comma and the words "and others."

**TITLES OF BOOKS AND ARTICLES:** Capitalize only the first word in the title of a book or article (and all proper nouns). Do not underline or italicize the titles of books; do not place titles of articles in quotation marks.
**TITLES OF JOURNALS:** Abbreviate titles of journals that consist of more than one word. Capitalize all the words or abbreviated words in the title (for example, Science, Sci Am, J Clin Psychopharmacol). Do not underline or italicize the title.

**PAGE RANGES:** Abbreviate page ranges for articles in journals or periodicals and for chapters in edited volumes: 51-3, 129-34. When an article appears on discontinuous pages, list all pages or page ranges: 145-9, 162-74. For chapters in edited volumes, use the abbreviation "p" before the numbers (p 63-90). Give the total number of pages for a book or an unpublished dissertation, followed by the abbreviation "p": 365.

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**Traditional Print Source Formats**

**Book Example**

Entry:

Author's [or editor's] Last Name First Initial. Year. Title. Place of Publication: Publisher Name. Number of pages.

Format:


For Internet sources, use the following model:

**Journal Examples**

Entry:

Author's Last Name First Initial. Year. Article title. Title of Periodical volume number(issue number):pages.

Format:


**Journals with Pagination by Issue**

Entry:

Author's Last Name First Initial. Year. Article title. Title of Periodical volume number(issue number):pages.

Format:


**Magazine Example**

Entry:

Author's Last Name First Initial. Year Month. Article title. Title of Periodical:pages.

Format:


**Newspaper Example**
Entry:  
Author's Last Name First Initial. Year Month Day. Article title. Title of Newspaper;Section Designator:Page Number(column number).

Format:  

No Author Given

When no author is indicated, begin the entry with the title of the work, as shown below. The following example is a paper issue journal article with continuous pagination.

Entry:  
Author's Last Name First Initial. Year. Article title. Title of Periodical volume number (issue number):pages.

Format:  

Internet Source Formats

• Internet Sites
Entry:  
Author's Last Name First Initial. Year. Title of web page. [online]. Available from: Protocol, Address, and Path. Accessed Date of Visit. (typical source information needed; however, some sources do not provide all pieces, so record what IS AVAILABLE!)

Format:  

• Personal site


• Professional site


• Article in an electronic journal (ejournal)


• Abstract

*Article in an electronic magazine (ezine)*


*Newspaper Article*


*Government publication*


*Email message*

To document an email message, provide the following information:
* Author's name
* Date of sending
* Subject line
* Type of communication (personal email), in square brackets
* Date of access