

School of Health Information Science Acceptable Citation Styles

The School of Health Information Science accepts the most recent editions of **APA** (American Psychological Association) or **ICMJE** (also known as Vancouver) as appropriate citation styles for coursework. Please ask your instructor or supervisor for their preferences.

The [UVic library](#) offers manuals, tip sheets and librarian assistance in how to format your citations appropriately.

[Bibliographic software](#) such as Zotero, Mendeley or EndNote can assist you in citing your work appropriately. All citations generated by software should be checked for accuracy before submitting work.

What is a [citation](#)?

A citation, or reference, is the quoting, paraphrasing, or summarizing of someone else's work, used as a basis for your own ideas and research. A citation also refers to the information about a source, such as title, author, date, etc., which gives credit to the original author and shows readers where to find the original work. There are two parts to a citation:

- **The in-text citation**, using either an author-date system (APA) OR a numbered quotes system (Vancouver). In either system, the in-text citation goes next to the quoted, paraphrased, or summarized material. Author-date in-text citation requires the surname of the author, the year of publication, and a page number (or chapter, figure, table, etc.)
- **The reference list** (also called a bibliography) citation -- found at the end of a paper or report

Citations follow a standardized format from a style guide such as APA or Vancouver.

When to [cite](#)

You need to cite anything that is not common knowledge, including when you don't use a word-for-word quote but still describe the main ideas or heart of a passage (called paraphrasing); but citing sources is more than just avoiding plagiarism.

Citations give credibility to your work by showing that you have consulted other expert research, and references strengthen your work by putting it into meaningful context. You can cite other sources to establish general background information.

More information on [plagiarism](#)

Talk with your instructor or supervisor if you have questions about how to cite material properly in your work. [Plagiarism](#) is considered a violation of the [UVic Academic Integrity Policy](#) and has serious consequences.