

COMPARISON OF DOCUMENTATION STYLES – MLA, APA, CHICAGO

Source: OWL Purdue site - https://owl.english.purdue.edu/media/pdf/20110928111055_949.pdf

MLA (Modern Language Association) - Web site: <https://www.mla.org/>

The Modern Language Association (MLA) provides a method for source documentation that is used in most humanities courses. The humanities place emphasis on authorship, so most MLA citation involves recording the author's (or source) name in the physical text. The author's (or source) name is also the first to appear in the "Works Cited" page at the end of an essay. Our course *MLA Handbook* (7/e) is the most recent edition.

Example (book) parenthetical reference:

... as part of the ongoing review of health conditions for cattle in central and west Texas (Pollan 368).

Works Cited (end page):

Pollan, Michael. *The Omnivore's Dilemma*. New York: Penguin Group, 2006. Print.

APA (American Psychological Association) - Web site: <https://www.apa.org/>

The American Psychological Association (APA) provides a method for source documentation that is used in most social sciences courses. The social sciences place emphasis on the date a work was created, so most APA citation involves recording the date of a particular work in the physical text. The date is usually placed immediately after the author's name in the "References" page at the end of an essay. The most recent APA formatting is the sixth edition (6/e) of the APA manual.

Example (book) – parenthetical reference:

... as part of the ongoing review of health conditions for cattle in central and west Texas (Pollan, 2006).

References (end page):

Pollan, M. (2006). *The omnivore's dilemma*. New York, NY: Penguin Group.

CMS (Chicago Manual of Style) - Web site: <https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/>

The Chicago Manual of Style (CMS) provides a method for source documentation that is used in most history courses. History places much emphasis on source origins, so footnotes and endnotes are used to demonstrate on-page (footnotes) from where a particular piece of information derives. CMS assigns a number to a particular fact in the text, and a footnote or endnote will appear at the bottom of the page linking the source to the text. The most recent CMS formatting is the sixteenth edition (16/e) of the CMS manual.

Example (as referenced in the research paper + footnote):

.....as part of the ongoing review of health conditions for cattle in central and west Texas.¹

¹ Pollan, Michael. *The Omnivore's Dilemma*. (New York: Penguin Group, 2006), 368.