Referencing

A crucial part of your academic studies will often include reading extensively around your subject and integrating other people’s research and opinions with your learning. You need to use ‘evidence’ from the literature to support your arguments and answer questions. As part of this process you need to make sure the reader knows where you are getting your information and how it relates to your own ideas and conclusions.

When using ideas, research, data, evidence, facts, diagrams etc. from other sources they need to be clearly distinguished from your own ideas. They must be carefully acknowledged to give credit to the authors and allow the reader of your work to trace the original resources if they wish to. Referencing will help you in this process.

Acknowledge the sources you have used by citing them within the text of your work and also in a list of references at the end of your assignment.

There are many different referencing styles and you must use the style recommended by your School or Module.

Keep a note of all the sources that you use as you go along so that it is easy to acknowledge them in your work. You might wish to keep your references in referencing software such as ‘RefWorks’ (which is free for all students to use). You can use RefWorks to produce your reference list or bibliography in the style required by your School or Module.

Important points to remember (unless the style your School uses, tells you otherwise.):

- Always check your handbook or ask your tutor which referencing style you need to use for each module.
  - You may have to adopt different referencing styles for different modules (using RefWorks makes this process easier).

- Be consistent with the style used in any piece of work
  - Do not start using Chicago and then switch to MLA or APA for example.

- Be clear and consistent
  - You must add as much information as is required. Make sure the details are correct, so that someone else can find your sources.

- Different types of material are presented differently
  - Make sure you know which information is needed for different types of references e.g. internet sources need the URL (web address) and date accessed; journal articles need volume and issue number.
Examples of bibliography entries for different sources referenced using Chicago 16th edition, Notes and Bibliography style – English Studies

Important points to note if using RefWorks:

- the default setting in RefWorks is for adding printed resources, if you are adding an electronic source you must enter or import the data required, then edit the entry by opening it, scrolling to “additional fields” and switching from print to electronic
- the Chicago style requires hanging indentation formation, as shown below. RefWorks will automatically create this for you
- not all electronic journal articles have a DOI (it will be provided on the first page of the article). If this is not present simply omit it
- not all electronic books have a DOI, if it is not available, simply omit it
- enter as much information about the names of the authors as you have, e.g. Shakespeare, William rather than Shakespeare, W.
- the supplier or provider of the electronic book should be entered into the links field in RefWorks, e.g. ProQuest ebrary, Google Books, Project Gutenberg
- the date which you have accessed a website should be entered in American format, e.g. 06/17 or June 17 for 17th June
- For an online report use the website option, for a printed report use report
- you should always check your bibliography for accuracy and typing errors

Here are examples of how to create bibliography entries for commonly cited sources in English Studies.

Printed book with more than one author


Printed book with an edition statement (i.e. not in its first edition)


Edited printed book


Chapter in printed book

**Electronic book**


**Chapter in electronic book (a DOI is not always available, omit this if not provided)**


**Entry in an anthology – electronic book**


**Translated electronic book**


**Website**


**Electronic newspaper article**


**DVD**


**Printed journal article**

**Electronic journal article**


**Electronic Report**


**Other sources**

For advice about referencing different documents using the Chicago 16th ed, please contact the Library: library@stir.ac.uk

**Bibliography**


