



University of Idaho
Library

INFORMATION LANDSCAPE WORKSHOP

Citing your sources: Why it matters and resources to save you time

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How I used AI to develop this session

Prompt: Imagine you are an academic librarian. Please design a 50-minute workshop for freshmen about citing sources that meets the following learning objectives.

1. Students will be introduced to the history of citation styles
2. Students will become aware of why citing sources is necessary
3. Students will become aware of AI and non-AI tools that can help them cite their sources accurately

I also want to include a think-pair-share activity on this topic, which is defined as "a collaborative learning strategy where students first individually "think" about a question or topic, then "pair" up with a partner to discuss their ideas, and finally "share" their thoughts with the larger group, allowing for active participation and deeper understanding of the subject matter".

I then edited and expanded upon the lesson plan.

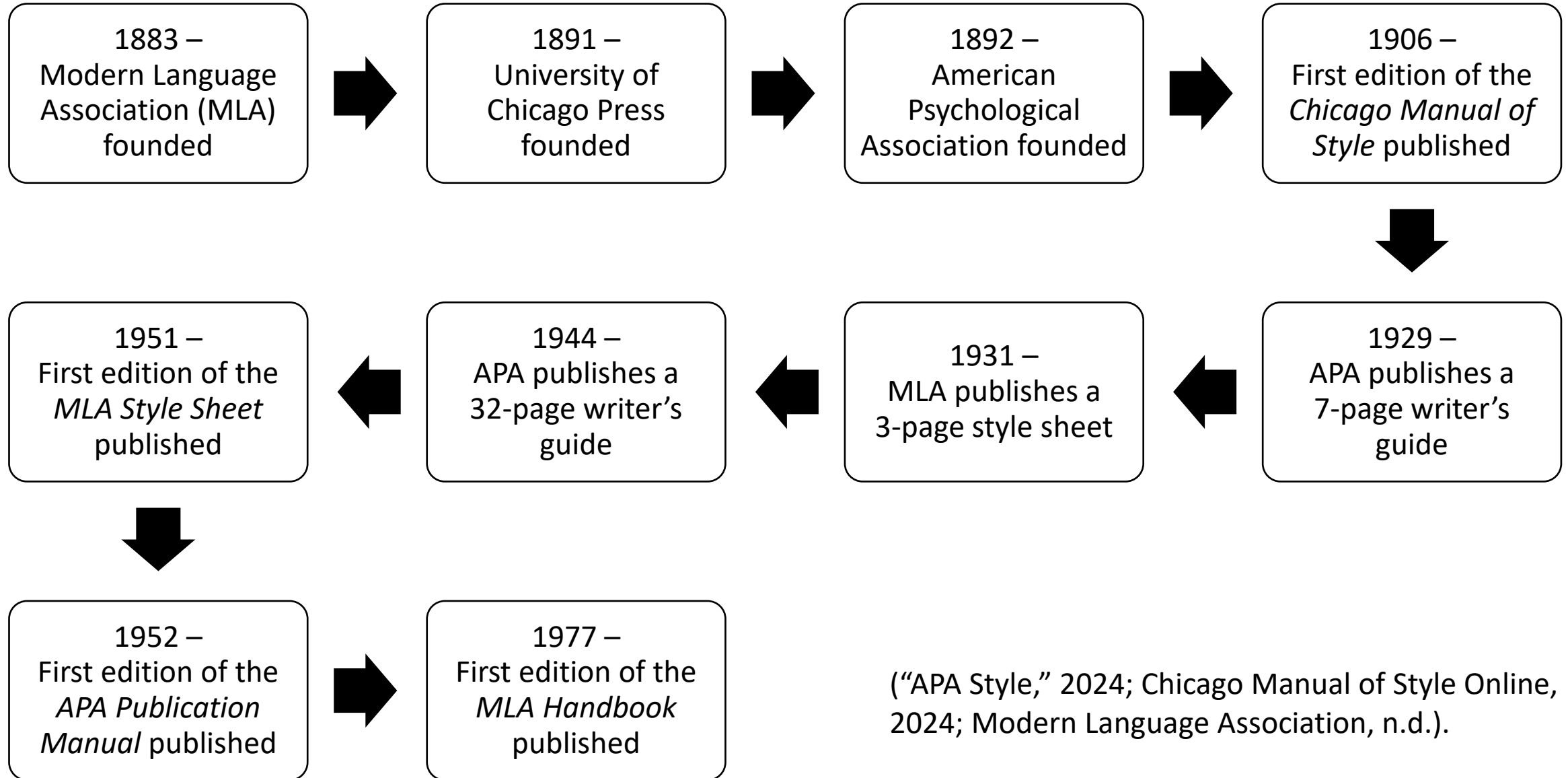
What we're covering today

- The history of citation styles
- Why citing sources is necessary
- Why links alone are not sufficient
- Citation tools/resources: Non-AI vs. AI

Which citation styles have you used?



The history of citation styles (1)



The history of citation styles (2)

- Most citation styles are classified as either parenthetical or numbered (University of Washington Libraries, 2025)

The history of citation styles (3)

- Parenthetical citations include (University of Washington Libraries, 2025):
 - **Author-page styles**, which “emphasize the researcher’s reading of a particular text or edition”
 - Examples include MLA (Modern Language Association)

The history of citation styles (4)

MLA Style

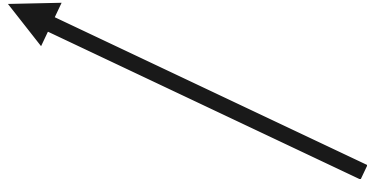
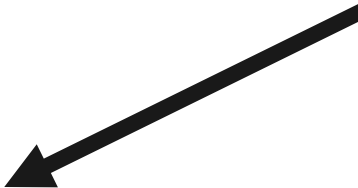
In-text:

(Baumgaertner and Justwan 4)



Reference entry:

Baumgaertner, Bert, and Florian Justwan. "The Preference for Belief, Issue Polarization, and Echo Chambers." *Synthese*, vol. 200, no. 5, Sept. 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-022-03880-y>.



The history of citation styles (5)

- Parenthetical citations include (University of Washington Libraries, 2025):
 - **Author-date styles**, which emphasize “the currency of information and/or examine the evolution of scholarly schools of thought”
 - Examples include APA (American Psychological Association), Chicago Author-Date, and CSE (Council of Science Editors) Name-Year

The history of citation styles (6)

CSE Name-Year

In-text:

(Harrison et al. 2024)

Reference entry:

Harrison GR, Shrestha A, Strand EK, Karl JW. 2024. A comparison and development of methods for estimating shrub volume using drone-imagery-derived point clouds. Ecosphere. 15(5):e4877.
<https://doi.org/10.1002/ecs2.4877>.

The history of citation styles (7)

- Numbered citations include (University of Washington Libraries, 2025):
 - **Footnote/endnote styles**, which “make heavy use of sources for which citations don’t fit neatly in a brief parenthetical reference”
 - Examples include Chicago Notes and Bibliography


The history of citation styles (8)

Chicago Notes and Bibliography

In-text:

Use superscript numbers to refer to note: Example = ¹

Note:



1. John W. Troutman, “Joe Shunatona and the United States Indian Reservation Orchestra” in *Indigenous Pop: Native American Music from Jazz to Hip Hop*, ed. Jeff Berglund, Jan Johnson, and Kimberli Lee (University of Arizona Press, 2016), 22.

2. Troutman, “Joe Shunatona,” 25.



The history of citation styles (9)

Chicago Notes and Bibliography

Bibliography entry:

Troutman, John W. “Joe Shunatona and the United States Indian Reservation Orchestra.” In *Indigenous Pop: Native American Music from Jazz to Hip Hop*, edited by Jeff Berglund, Jan Johnson, and Kimberli Lee. University of Arizona Press, 2016.

The history of citation styles (10)

- Numbered citations include (University of Washington Libraries, 2025):
 - **Numbered sequence styles**, which “cite a high number of studies...[and] let the text be read more easily without long interruptions from a string of in-text parenthetical citations”
 - Examples include: IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers), AMA (American Medical Association), CSE (Council of Science Editors) Citation-Sequence, CSE (Council of Science Editors) Citation-Name

The history of citation styles (11)

IEEE

In-text:

References don't need to be cited in-text, but when they are, they appear as a number in square brackets within punctuation:

Example = [1]

Note:

1. H. Lei, H. Samkari, Y. Chakhchoukh, J. Geng, and B. K. Johnson, "Impact of Resistive SFCLs on Superimposed Quantities in Power System Faults," *IEEE Trans. Appl. Supercond.*, vol. 31, no. 7, pp. 1–8, Oct. 2021, doi: 10.1109/TASC.2021.3101815.

Think – Pair – Share (1)

- Now that you know a brief history of citation style development...

Why is citing sources necessary?

Think = Reflect individually (30 seconds)

Pair = Pair up with someone else and discuss (1 minute)

Share = Discuss your insights with everyone

Why citing sources is necessary

- Citing sources helps you:
 - Demonstrate academic integrity
 - Respect intellectual property
 - Support your arguments
 - Build on existing knowledge

Think – Pair – Share (2)

- Now that you know a bit more about why citing sources is necessary...

Why are links alone not sufficient?

Think = Reflect individually (30 seconds)

Pair = Pair up with someone else and discuss (1 minute)

Share = Discuss your insights with everyone

Why links alone are not sufficient

- Lack of permanence
- Missing essential information
- Copyright and authorship issues
- Example
 - USDA Farm Service Agency: Embracing Equity at FSA
 - [October 15, 2024](#)
 - [November 27, 2024](#)
 - [February 24, 2025](#)



Think – Pair – Share (3)

What tools do you use to cite sources in your assignments?

Think = Reflect individually (30 seconds minute)

Pair = Pair up with someone else and discuss (1 minute)

Share = Discuss your insights with everyone

Citation tools/resources (1)

- Non-AI tools/resources
 - Print and online style guides
 - [APA Style](#)
 - [MLA Style](#)
 - [Chicago Style](#)
 - [AMA Style](#)
 - [CSE Style](#)
 - [IEEE Style](#)
 - Citing ChatGPT and other generative AI tools
 - [APA Style](#)
 - [MLA Style](#)
 - [Chicago Style](#)

Citation tools/resources (2)

- Non-AI tools/resources
 - Citation management software like Zotero
 - Citation generators in the Library catalog, Library databases, Google Scholar, Citation Machine, ZoteroBib
 - Librarians

Citation tools/resources (3)

- AI-driven tools/resources
 - ChatGPT, Claude, AI add-ons for citation management software

Practice citing

- Create a citation in any style for the following journal article using one of the AI-driven or non-AI tools/resources we discussed

Journal article

Title: Impact of geographic diversity on citation of collaborative research

Link: <https://tinyurl.com/5n7vhpks>



Wrap-up

- Citing sources has a long history
- Various citation styles exist
- Citations provide the context needed to evaluate how a source was used
- Citing sources does more than just help you avoid plagiarizing; it makes you a better researcher
- Links, although helpful, are problematic on their own
- Various non-AI and AI tools/resources exist to help you cite sources

References

APA Style. (2024, August 4). In *Wikipedia*.

https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=APA_style&oldid=1238646458

Chicago Manual of Style Online. (2024). *About the Chicago Manual of Style*.

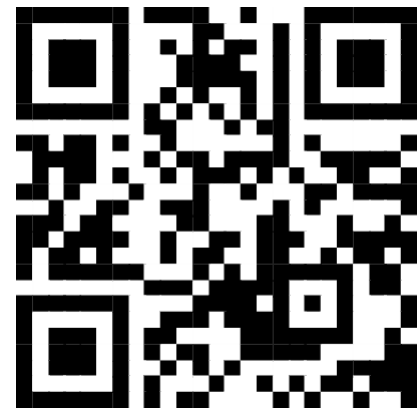
<https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/help-tools/about.html>

Modern Language Association. (n.d.). *MLA history*. [https://www.mla.org/About-](https://www.mla.org/About-Us/About-the-MLA/MLA-Archives/Time-Lines/MLA-History)

[Us/About-the-MLA/MLA-Archives/Time-Lines/MLA-History](https://www.mla.org/About-Us/About-the-MLA/MLA-Archives/Time-Lines/MLA-History)

University of Washington Libraries. (2025, March 2). *Citing sources: Why are there so many citation styles?* <https://guides.lib.uw.edu/c.php?g=341448&p=8783775>

Link to slides: <https://tinyurl.com/yxfsv2tu>



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THANK YOU!

Please email me (jylisadoney@uidaho.edu) if you have questions or need help with library research in this class or others