CSE Name-Year Guide
Wellehan Library
Saint Joseph's College

Like other citation styles, CSE (Council of Science Editors) style requires a citation in the text of the paper when borrowed information is used. The in-text citation indicates that a full citation will be found at the end of the paper in the references list.

In-text Citations:

- ✓ Two parts are required in the parenthetical entry: Author last name and year of publication.
- ✓ Place the citation immediately after the information to which it refers. Do not wait until the end of a long sentence or the end of a paragraph to include the citation.
- ✓ In-text citations appear before punctuation marks.
- ✓ If a work has two authors, cite both last names (no initials) along with year of publication.
- ✓ If a work has more than two authors, cite only the last name of the first author followed by "et al."
- ✓ If a work has an organization as an author, use the abbreviation that will be cited in the reference list. (See second Author(s) Field note below.)
- ✓ If a work has no author, use the first or first few words of the title.

Note: If the author's name is mentioned in the text of the paper (signal phrase), only the date of publication will appear in the parenthetical citation.

    For example: Nelson (2012) suggested that the earlier findings were correct.

- ✓ If a work has no publication date, use "[date unknown]" in the citation.

Reference Entry Fields:

    All reference entries in the CSE Name-Year format begin with author name followed by year of publication.

Author(s) Field:

- ✓ Last name and initials only for first and middle (if cited) names.
- ✓ Commas are **not** used to separate last name from first name.
- ✓ Commas are used to separate multiple author names.
- ✓ Periods are not used after initials.
- ✓ One period is used at the end of the author field of the reference entry.
  Two authors: Luther SC, Martin DC.

Note:
- ✓ Cite all authors' names in this format up to 10 authors. If more than 10 authors are cited, cite the first 10 authors followed by "et al."
- ✓ If an organization is responsible for the borrowed information, cite the organization's name in the author field of the reference entry. A familiar abbreviation for an organization is given in brackets at the beginning of the entry: [NCI] National Cancer Institute. 2004. The abbreviation is used in the in-text citation: (NCI 2004).
- ✓ If no author is cited, place the title of the work in the author field.
- ✓ If an editor's name is used in the author field, use "editor" following the name.

Date Field:

- ✓ Cite the date of publication immediately after the author field.
- ✓ Follow the date of publication with a period.
- ✓ If no date is cited, use "[date unknown]" in the date field.
- ✓ If a copyright date is used, precede the date with "c." For example: c2009.

Title Field (Book, Article):

- ✓ Capitalize only the first word of the title along with any proper nouns.
- ✓ Title is not placed in quotation marks, underlined or italicized.

Title Field (Journal):

- ✓ Journal titles consisting of more than one word must be abbreviated.
- ✓ All words of the abbreviated title will be capitalized.
- ✓ Accepted abbreviation of title may appear at the top of bottom of a journal article.
- ✓ If accepted title abbreviation cannot be found in the article, search for the ISO abbreviation at http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nlmcatalog/journals

CSE Resources from the Wellehan Library Website:

From the website's left menu, click on the "Cite Sources" link.

Note: The "CSE reference list" link provides models to follow for creating a variety of reference list entries. Remember, however, in the Name-Year format that the author name is followed by the year of publication. As a result, reference list sample entries will need to be modified.

Ennos R, Sheffield E. Plant life. Boston: Blackwell Scientific; 2000.

The sample entry will need to be modified by adjusting location of year of publication.

Ennos R, Sheffield E. 2000. Plant life. Boston: Blackwell Scientific.