

Citation Formats

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The two citation formats that you are most likely to use as a high-school student or college freshmen are the APA and MLA formats. *APA* stands for “American Psychological Association”, and *MLA* stands for “Modern Language Association”. For authoritative reference on these citation styles, it is advisable for full-time college students to purchase the [*Concise Rules of APA Style*](#) and the [*MLA Style Manual and Guide to Scholarly Publishing*](#)¹.

Citations may be *Footnotes* or *Endnotes*. The numbered entries you see at the bottoms of pages in this document are Footnotes, which are an older style of notation sometimes seen in library handouts and magazine articles, but rarely in papers you write for a class. Most teachers, instructors and professors today will require *In text citations* and *Endnotes*. *In text citations* are entries within the text of your paper, that refer to an entry in your *Works Cited* or *Reference List*. *Endnotes* are references cited in a text and gathered together on an MLA style *Works Cited* page or an APA style *Reference List* at the end of your paper. Both MLA and APA use parenthetical in-text citations. Examples of in-text citations, and end-notes for these two citation styles may be seen on the web-pages listed below.

Review several of the websites listed below. Different authors have different styles, and having a variety of descriptions of a topic may enhance your understanding.

APA Format

Bibme.org APA Citation Style Guide

<http://www.bibme.org/citation-guide/apa/>

OWL at Purdue: APA in-text citations.

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/02/>

OWL at Purdue: APA Reference List.

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/05/>

SUNY Albany Citation Fox: APA Format

<http://library.albany.edu/cfox>

¹ The links provided in this document are to the publishers' websites, however you may be able to find a better price for these titles by looking for a used copy, or making your purchase through another vendor.

MLA Format

BIBME.org MLA Citation Style Guide

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/05/>

OWL at Purdue: MLA in-text citations

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/02/>

OWL at Purdue: MLA Works Cited page.

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/05/>

SUNY Albany Citation Fox: MLA Format

<http://library.albany.edu/cfox?type=mla>

The Calvin Knightcite Web App

A very useful tool for formatting citations is the Calvin Knightcite Web App, provided by the Hekman library at Calvin University. The link for the Calvin Knightcite App is:

<https://www.calvin.edu/library/knightcite/>

Be sure to go through the menu at the left of the screen and select the conditions that apply to your citation list. This app defaults to a Basic Book citation format in the MLA style, so if you're citing another type of document you need to select the correct parameters for the document you're citing.

Citation Formats from Database Articles

Many academic databases and professional journals now provide citation information alongside articles. When you access an article summary page, if you read the whole screen you'll often be able to find formatted MLA and APA citation entries that you can cut and paste into your Works Cited or Reference list. The example at the right shows citation information from an article that was published in the on-line journal PLOS one. This citation is in APA format and can be copied and pasted right into an APA Reference list.

<p>Citation: Hendrickx C, Mateus O (2014) <i>Tarvosaurus gurneyi</i> n. sp., the Largest Terrestrial Predator from Europe, and a Proposed Terminology of the Maxilla Anatomy in Nonavian Theropods. PLoS ONE 9(3): e88905. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0088905</p>
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