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Trouble with Chicago Style? That's HISTORY!

A QUICK REFERENCE FOR CHICAGO STYLE CITATIONS

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So you're a cadet at West Point. You probably worked your butt off to get in here, right? So it'd sure be a tragedy to throw away that hard work and all of the effort you put into your essay because you failed to cite one of your sources. That's right, your entire cadet career could end just because you didn't cite one article, or didn't do it correctly. What a shame.

But luckily for you, you picked up this handout—look at you, you're already grasping the concept of citations! Get it?! Because you're grasping this sheet which explains the concept of citing.

Look, I never claimed to be a comedian; I'm just here to help keep you away from an Honor Board... On a more serious note, keep reading to learn how to utilize Chicago style citations properly—to do your essay and hard work justice and keep yourself out of Nininger Hall!



Some Brief Background

Typically, Chicago Style is used in history and social sciences courses here at USMA. This includes core history courses (like HI105 & HI108), American Politics (SS202), Economics (SS201), and International Relations (SS307), just to name a few. The full citation style is outlined in the aptly-named *The Chicago Manual of Style* (available online through the library) and you'll find abbreviated explainers in writing textbooks such as *The Little, Brown Handbook* too. Always also check with your individual instructors—sometimes they will have their own preferences (as will departments) on how to use Chicago style.

Some [Trustworthy] Online Citation Generators and Resources

- 1) **KnightCite** www.calvin.edu/library/knightcite/index.php
- 2) **Zotero** www.zotero.org
- 3) **Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL)** owl.english.purdue.edu

Sites like these can be helpful for managing your citations, but with any computer-generated solution, make sure the program truly understands your intent and cranks out appropriate response that **MAKES SENSE AND LOOKS RIGHT!** You'd be surprised how often minor—even major—adjustments need to be made.

Quick Tips

The first line of Footnotes is indented five spaces.

Individual footnotes are single-spaced but double space in between multiple footnotes.

In the Works Cited, triple space between the Works Cited header and the first line of citations.

Works Cited page: the first line of each citation is left justified with every subsequent line indented 5 spaces.

Italicize the titles of books and periodicals in both footnotes and Works Cited entries.

Do not use "p." or "pp." before page numbers.

Use quotation marks around article titles in both footnotes and Works Cited entries.

Consult your style manual regularly!

How to Cite Sources Multiple Times in the Same Paper

You'll likely run into cases where you must cite a single source repeatedly throughout your essay. So, to make things easier, Chicago style allows for several different options to abbreviate citations. The first and most basic method is to simply **shorten** the note (usually using just the author and title the second time around and every time thereafter in a paper). Makes sense, right? A second method is to use the Latin abbreviation "**ibid**", which means 'in the same place.' Use 'ibid' when the same source is noted in the footnotes multiple times in a row (without interruption by another source) across *different paragraphs*. However, using the same source multiple times within *the same paragraph*, requires a third method: **in-text, parenthetical citations**.

Read on for examples of all three methods!

1. Shortened Method (in the Footnotes):

¹President Barack Obama, "Statement by the President on the Framework to Prevent Iran from Obtaining a Nuclear Weapon" (statement, White House, Washington D.C., April 2, 2015).

²Obama, "Statement by the President on the Framework to Prevent Iran from Obtaining a Nuclear Weapon."

2. "Ibid" Method (in the Footnotes):

¹President Barack Obama, "Statement by the President on the Framework to Prevent Iran from Obtaining a Nuclear Weapon" (statement, White House, Washington D.C., April 2, 2015).

²Ibid.

3. In-text Citation Method (in a Paragraph and in the Footnotes):

Following the hurricane, as a response to the bankruptcy of insurance firms who aided those affected by Hurricane Katrina, the insurance industry lobbied as an interest group through the Disaster Coalition to secure federal reinsurance against mega-disasters' financial impact on the industry and to take necessary measures to focus on the nation's infrastructure to decrease the impact of potential disasters which would cause more bankruptcy to insurance firms.⁹ The insurance interest group's concerns are more or less addressed in the changes outlined in the Post-Katrina Act as it provides for the building of "robust regional offices to address regional priorities using DHS resources under the Secretary's leadership" and the development and implementation of a risk-based hazards preparedness strategy (12).

Footnotes Section:

⁹Federal Emergency Management Agency. "Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act."

Remember: check your Chicago Style Manual when in doubt, and good luck!