



The Library

# Getting Started with the ACS Citation Style

## What is the ACS Style?

American Chemical Society (ACS) style is one of several styles for academic and professional writing. This Getting Started library handout covers frequently used citations and refers to the *Guide (The ACS Style Guide: Effective Communication of Scientific Information)* is available in print via the call number QD8.5 .A25 2006 and available online to UBC users via <http://pubs.acs.org/isbn/9780841239999>). Unless otherwise stated below, section and page numbers referred to are from the *Guide*.

## General Rules

*\*\*The following are recommendations. Final rules will be determined by the specific journals guidelines and professor preferences.*

- **Formatting:** The preferred font is a serif typeface such as Times New Roman with 12-point size. Double-space between all lines of text, including the reference list. Have uniform margins of 1 in. (2.54 cm) on all sides.
- **Hanging indents** should be used for the reference list entries. This means that all lines after the first line of each entry should be indented one half inch from the left margin (in Word 2007 use Paragraph>Special>Hanging).
- Arrange reference list entries in **the order used in your paper** (numerically based on footnote/endnote number). Use only the initial(s) of the author's given name, not the full name, with a space between the initials.
- **Italicize** journal titles, volume numbers and even the comma following the volume number (do not italicize the comma if followed by the issue number). Do not italicize issue numbers (i.e. the number which appears in parentheses after the volume number if the journal has issues that continuously begin with page 1).
- The ACS style **does not allow** the use of secondary sources. You must locate the original source of information when citing a work that you have read.
- References cited in the text must appear in the reference list and vice versa.

## Citations in Text

In the ACS style, there are three ways to cite references in text. For assistance with other styles please consult *The ACS Style Guide* or our non-course specific Getting Started Guide via the library website.

The preference for UBC Okanagan Chemistry is:

- By superscript numbers (i.e. a raised number) [Ch. 14, p.287-289]
  - a. These will appear outside of the punctuation if citing the full sentence.
  - b. If citing a part of a sentence it will appear next to the information being cited.
  - c. Citations are numbered consecutively in the order that they appear in your assignment at the end of the paper in a references list.
  - d. Once a resource has been cited once, that same number is used to cite the other citations for this resource in the assignment.

E.g. The primary structure of the enzyme was determined to be a globular protein.<sup>1</sup>

Remember when citing in text:

1. When using a direct quotation, cite as you would any other idea with a superscript.  
E.g. Stereotypes have been defined as "generalized and usually value-laden impressions that one's social group uses in characterizing members of another group."<sup>2</sup>
2. When paraphrasing an idea, the citation will be indicated with a superscript.  
E.g. A study of the comparison process shows that ... has to be completed.<sup>3</sup>
3. Order multiple works as they would appear in the reference list in superscript without spaces between.  
E.g. Past research<sup>2,7-9,12</sup> has shown...

## JOURNAL ARTICLES – Note: This is the preferred citation format for Chemistry at UBC Okanagan.

### Journal articles (pp 291-293)

Author 1; Author 2; Author 3; etc. *Journal Abbreviation* Year, Volume, xx-yy.

#### Example:

Mokry, D. Z.; Nadia-Albete, A.; Johnson, M. K.; Lukat-Rodgers, G. S.; Rodgers, K. R.; Lanzilotta, W. N. *Biochim. Biophys. Acta* **2014**, 1840, 3058-3066.

#### TIPS:

- ❖ If each issue of a journal begins on page 1, give the issue number in parentheses immediately after the volume number (pp 296).
- ❖ Remember that both the publication year and the comma following it are **bolded**.
- ❖ To help find journal abbreviations please visit: <http://woodward.library.ubc.ca/research-help/journal-abbreviations/> or consult the full ACS Style Guide available in the library.
- ❖ No **pp** is indicated before the page numbers for journal articles.
- ❖ Note that there is no comma or semicolon before or after journal titles.

## BOOKS - Note: These are the preferred citation formats for Chemistry at UBC Okanagan.

### Print Entire Book: Authored without editors (pp 300)

Author 1; Author 2; Author 3; etc. *Book Title*, Edition Number (if any); Series Information (if any); Publisher: Place of Publication, Year; Volume number (if any).

#### Example:

Symons, M. C. R.; Gutteridge, J. M. C. *Free Radicals and Iron: Chemistry, Biology, and Medicine*; Oxford University Press: New York, NY, 1998.

#### TIPS:

- ❖ Indicate the 2 letter abbreviation of the state or province that the publication city is located in if the city is not well known. This would be listed following the comma after the city and includes another comma following it.
  - Example: Oxford University Press: New York, NY,
- ❖ No page numbers required for the full book for this assignment. These may be required in future assignments.

### Edited Print Book: Chapter in the book (pp 300)

Author 1; Author 2; Author 3; etc. In *Book Title*, Edition Number (if any); Editor 1, Editor 2, etc.; Series Information (if any); Publisher: Place of Publication, Year; Volume Number (if any); pp xx-yy.

#### Example:

Harris, W. R. In *Molecular and Cellular Iron Transport*; Templeton D. M., Ed.; Marcel Dekker: New York, NY, 2002; pp 10-21.

#### TIPS:

- ❖ If you are citing the full book and no authors are listed, simply start at *Book Title*.

**Online Entire Book (e-book): Without editors** (pp 319-320) Author 1; Author 2; Author 3; etc. *Book Titles* [Online]; Series Information (if any); Publisher: Place of Publication, Year.

**Example:**

Ingram, V. M. *Hemoglobin and its Abnormalities* [Online]; Charles C. Thomas: Springfield, IL, 1961.

**TIPS:**

- ❖ For your assignment you will not need to indicate the URL or accessed date as it states in the full citation guide. Please follow this format.

**Online Book (e-book): With Editors and Chapter in the Book** (pp 320) Author 1; Author 2; Author 3; etc. In *Book Title* [Online]; Edition Number (if any); Editor 1, Editor 2, etc., Ed(s).; Series Information (if any); Publisher: Place of Publication, Year; pp xx-yy.

**Example:**

Harris, W. R. In *Molecular and Cellular Iron Transport* [Online]; Templeton D. M., Ed.; Marcel Dekker: New York, NY, 2002; pp 10-21.

**TIPS:**

- ❖ For your assignment you will not need to indicate the URL or accessed date as it states in the full citation guide. Please follow this format.

## OTHER

**Website** (pp 293)

Author/Publishing Body. Page Title. URL (accessed DATE).

**Example:**

ACS Publications Division. Home Page. <http://pubs.acs.org> (accessed Jan 6, 2017).

**TIPS:**

- ❖ Ensure that the URL is **not** hyperlinked.

**Technical Report** (pp 292)

Author1; Author 2; Author 3; etc. Title; Report Number (if any); Issues government agency or corporation: Place of Publication, Year.

**Example:**

Tschantz, B. A.; Moran, B. M. Modelling of the Hydrologic Transport of Mercury in the Upper East Fork Popular Creek (UEFPC) Watershed; LMES-204-5560; Lockheed Martin Energy Systems: Bethesda, MD, 2010.

**Start your reference list on a new page and double-space all entries. Generally, your paper should be written in 12-pt Times New Roman with 1" margins (preferred for your assignment). For this assignment you will be required to number your references.**

## References

**For journal articles, only include the issue number if the journal is paginated by issue, i.e. each issue begins on page 1 (p. 199).**

1. Mokry, D. Z.; Nadia-Albete, A.; Johnson, M. K.; Lukat-Rodgers, G. S.; Rodgers, K. R.; Lanzilotta, W. N. *Biochim. Biophys. Acta* **2014**, *1840*, 3058-3066.
2. Symons, M. C. R.; Gutteridge, J. M. C. *Free Radicals and Iron: Chemistry, Biology, and Medicine*; Oxford University Press: New York, NY, 1998.
3. Harris, W. R. In *Molecular and Cellular Iron Transport*; Templeton D. M., Ed.; Marcel Dekker: New York, NY, 2002; pp 10-21.
4. Ingram, V. M. *Hemoglobin and its Abnormalities* [Online]; Charles C. Thomas: Springfield, IL, 1961.
5. Harris, W. R. In *Molecular and Cellular Iron Transport* [Online]; Templeton D. M., Ed.; Marcel Dekker: New York, NY, 2002; pp 10-21.
6. ACS Publications Division. Home Page. <http://pubs.acs.org> (accessed Jan 6, 2017).
7. Tschantz, B. A.; Moran, B. M. Modelling of the Hydrologic Transport of Mercury in the Upper East Fork Popular Creek (UEFPC) Watershed; LMES-204-5560; Lockheed Martin Energy Systems: Bethesda, MD, 2010.

**When ordering your references, always list them in the order they appear in your assignment, unless otherwise specified by your professor.**

