

## CITING SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION

Here are some examples of correct citation format:

There are two parts to a citation within a written scientific communication:

**A) The citation within the text that refers to one or more papers, books, chapters, etc...These presumably contain material relevant to your own writing.**

This is usually done with parentheses, listing author(s) and dates in chronological order. For example:

The social habits and life-history tactics of these gregarious fish are reasonably well known from a variety of studies (Ogden & Buckman 1973, Robertson *et al.* 1976, Robertson & Warner 1978, Colin & Clavijo 1988, Clifton 1989, 1991).

(Note that if a reference has more than 2 authors, only the first one is cited, followed by "et al.", an abbreviation for the Latin phrase "et alia", "and others")

The author's name may also be used directly in a sentence, followed by the date of publication in parentheses. For example:

Vitousek *et al.* (1996) argue that introduced species ought to be regarded as agents of global environmental change.

**B) As part of a listing of all references at the end of a paper.**

The typical format for journal articles is:

Last name, First initial, Middle Initial. Year of publication. Title of article. Journal (in italics and appropriately abbreviated), Volume # (bold face); Page range. (note: give initials before last name for all but the primary author). These are listed in alphabetical order, earlier dates first for a given author.

Examples:

Bierzychudek, P. and C. G. Reiness. 1992. Helping nonmajors find out what's so interesting about biology. *Bioscience* **42(2)**:125-128.

Clifton, K.E. 1997. Mass spawning by green algae on coral reefs. *Science* **275**:1113-1116.

Clifton, K. E. 1990. The costs and benefits of territory sharing for the Caribbean coral reef fish, *Scarus iserti*. *Behav. Ecol. Soc.* **26**: 139-147

For books:

Author(s) (as above), Year of publication. Title of book, edition. Publisher, total pages.

Example:

Raven, Peter H., L. R. Berg, & G. B. Johnson. 1998. *Environment*, 2nd edition. Saunders Publishing Co., 579 pp.

For chapters within a book:

Author(s) (as above), Year of publication. *Title of chapter*. In: Title of book (editors and edition). Publisher, page numbers.

Example:

Emlen, S. T. 1978. *The evolution of cooperative behaviour in birds*. In: Behavioural Ecology (Ed. by J. R. Krebs & N. B. Davies), Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. pp. 245-281.

Here's an example for materials published within the College...remember, these are not peer-reviewed, so should not be used if similar information is available from a better source.

Bierzychudek, P., W. McLennan, and D. Martinsen. 1998. Laboratory Manual for Biology 141, Lewis and Clark College.

For "in press" articles (those that are accepted for publication, but not yet published) substitute "(in press)" for the date and include the journal title, but omit information on volume and page range.

Example:

Bernardi, G., Robertson, R., Clifton, K. and Azzuro, E. (in press) Ecology, biogeography and evolution of the parrotfish genus *Sparisoma*: inferred from DNA sequences. *Mol. Phylo. Evol.*

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