

American Historical Review Citation Style

The footnote style used by the *AHR* generally follows the conventions recommended by *The Chicago Manual of Style*. If you do not find your citation problem discussed here, please consult Chicago or contact us for advice.

- **Placement of Notes.** A footnote number should come at the end of a sentence or at least at the end of a clause wherever possible. Footnote numbers always follow quoted or cited material; they should not be placed after authors' names or other references preceding the cited matter.
- **Number and Length of Notes.** An excessive number of notes can detract from your argument, and lengthy notes make page layout difficult. Space at the foot of the page is limited, so please combine notes where you can and keep them as concise as possible.
- **Acknowledgments.** Please use an unnumbered note, placed at either the beginning or the end of the text, to provide any desired reference to previous forms of the article (e.g., a paper delivered at the annual meeting of the AHA) and to acknowledge the assistance of colleagues or grants from foundations (be sure to include the year and number of the grant). Do not number it as a footnote.
- **Citing Books.** The first citation of a book should take the following format:

Gerhard L. Weinberg, *A World at Arms: A Global History of World War II* (Cambridge, 1994).

Abraham Lincoln, *The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln*, ed. Roy P. Basler, 9 vols. (New Brunswick, N.J., 1953-55).

Jules Romains, *Verdun*, trans. Gerard Hopkins (1938; repr. ed., London, 2000).

Subsequent citations should take the following format:

Weinberg, *A World at Arms*, 132-33.

Lincoln, *The Collected Works*, 3: 46.

Romains, *Verdun*, 101-02.

Note that only the last name of the author is provided in a subsequent reference, along with a shortened version of the title. The publication information is not repeated. The short title should use words in sequence from the main title only. In shortening foreign language titles, be careful not to omit a word that changes the capitalization or governs the case ending of a word retained in the short title.

- **Citing Book Chapters.** A book chapter or essay should take the following format:

John H. Hanson, "Islam and African Societies," in Phyllis M. Martin and Patrick O'Meara, eds., *Africa*, 3rd ed. (Bloomington, Ind., 1995), 97-114.

Subsequent citations should take the following format:

Hanson, "Islam and African Societies," 98.

- **Citing Articles.** A journal or newspaper article should take the following format:

Christopher Steiner, "Another Image of Africa: Toward an Ethnohistory of European Cloth Marketed in West Africa, 1873-1960," *Ethnohistory* 32, no. 2 (1985): 91-110.

"La Muse de Paris," *La Fronde*, July 11, 1898, 11.

Subsequent citations should take the following format:

Steiner, "Another Image of Africa," 97, 99.

"La Muse de Paris," 11.

- **Citing Unpublished Materials.** Information from archives can be cited in order either from specific to general or from general to specific; we simply ask that you be consistent.

General to specific: Archivio di Stato, Venice, Avogaria di Comun, Balla d'Oro (hereafter, BO) 163, fols. 216r.

Specific to general: Minutes, July 13, 1897, Special Committee on Pensions, City Club of Chicago, Box 2, p. 216, Archives of the City Club, Chicago.

- **Citing Classical, Literary, and Legal Works.** We prefer to spell out rather than abbreviate, in order to be as clear as possible for a general audience. Thus Thucydides 2.40 is preferable to Thucy. 2.40, and *Faerie Queene*, 2.8.12 is preferable to *FQ* 2.8.12. Please note our preference for Arabic rather than Roman numerals.

Legal case names are italicized: *United States v. Dennis*, 183 F.2nd 201 (2nd Cir. 1950).

- **Abbreviations.**

The following abbreviations (and, where applicable, their plurals) are acceptable for use in your notes: bk., cf., chap., diss., ed. ("editor" or "edited by"), e.g., et al., etc., fig., fol., ibid., i.e., n.d., no., n.p. ("no place"; "no page"), n.s., par., pt., repr., rev., sec., vol. We do not use op. cit. or loc. cit.; please use author's last name and shortened title for subsequent citations of a fully cited work. We do not use f. or ff. ("and following") or passim; please provide the actual page range numbers for the reference. Please use 2nd and 3rd, not 2d and 3d.

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