References in the AMBIO-style

The reference-style in the journal Ambio is based on the Harvard-style: use the author/year format to give a reference in your text. The complete reference will be found in the reference list.

The purpose of giving a proper reference is to let the reader know what source you have used so that it easily can be located. Find out what kind of document the reference implies (monograph, journal, article, book chapter, webpage etc) and look for the information that you need to construct the reference. Different sources need different information. All sources need an author/corporate author and a publishing year – some references also need some special information.

- author (author or corporate author, organisations, authorities, companies etc).
- publishing year (can be troublesome for webpages, if none found, use n.d. = no date).
- a title (article title, book title, chapter title etc. If a webpage doesn’t have a title – construct one that describes the page’s content).
- where is the source published? (Is it in a journal, in a book, in a report, or is it an url?).
- A book and a book chapter need a publisher, an anthology needs an editor(s). Also, add publisher and the place where it is published (not the place where it is printed).
- If you have cited a section of a book or a journal (a book chapter or a journal article), you need to add pages.
- Add numbers for reports (if there are any).
- For a webpage: add the url and the date when you retrieved the page.
- For an article, add the unique doi-number (digital object identifier).

References in the main text

You are requested to use the author/year format of referencing in the text, e.g. (Smångs 2020). Please note that the author can be a corporate author as well as a person.

If the source that you cite has one author: (Stern 2009)
If the source has two authors: (Schwartz and Billoski 1990)
If the source has three or more authors: use the name of the first author followed by “et al.”: (Carruthers et al. 1999).

Add a, b, c etc. to distinguish between two or more references with the same author name and year: (Quigley and Harper 2006a, b;). Always list a string of references in chronological order, e.g. (Black 1985, 1991; Smith and Baker 1995a, b; Carruthers et al. 1999). Use ; to separate references.

Personal communications (Carruthers, pers. comm.), submitted manuscript and other unpublished data (Carruthers, unpubl.) should be referred to in the running text and not given as notes or in the reference list. Avoid references to gray literature, to nonscientific publications and to publications that are difficult for the reader to access. No Wikipedia!

To reference an organisation with a well-known acronym/abbreviation: the first time you mention the source in your text, give the full name of the organisation, followed by the standard acronym/abbreviation: IPCC — Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. When you cite from the same source again you only write the abbreviation (IPCC 2019). Give the full name of the organization in the reference list.
The reference list

The reference list in the Ambio-style is alphabetically ordered and follows the template: last name, initial, year, e.g. Smångs, B. 2020. Then add all the information that you need to construct the reference for your specific source.

- Give the reference list a heading: References
- The references in the reference list should be as complete as possible!
- Have one reference list, books, articles, reports, internet sources etc all together
- Do not put a reference in your reference list that you have not used in your text!
- Please note the hanging indent: Word → Paragraph → indent → Special → Hanging:


The cite function in Libris/Worldcat/LUBsearch/other databases can help you to format a reference: cut and paste, then modify! Save your reference in the Harvard style → the cite function. Replace the author’s full first name with initial. If more than one author: the first author’s last name, initial – next author’s name should be reversed, i. e. initial, last name.

- Please be careful about the punctuation and to use an “and” next to the last author.
- Remove brackets from the publishing year and place a full stop after the publishing year.

An example: The book: Applying nature’s design: corridors as a strategy for biodiversity conservation by Anthony B. Anderson and Clinton N. Jenkins

If you try the Cite-function In Libris, the Harvard-style looks like this:

After modifying to the Ambio-style:

All authors’ names up to 8 should be given. The abbreviation et al. should be used for papers with more than 8 authors, and following the first 8 names. Names of journals should be written in full. Please provide first and last pages for excerpts from journals, books, etc. In references to books, bulletins and reports, give number of pages, the city and the publisher. If a paper is written in a foreign language, give the title in English and indicate at the end of the reference the language in which the paper is written as follows: (In Swedish). If the paper has an English summary add (English summary).

Examples in the Ambio-style

The journal Ambio’s homepage gives you examples of the citation style:

Journal articles
https://doi.org/10.1007/s13280-010-0024-5


Reports

Books

Book chapters

Theses

Web material

Some more examples

A book with one author/corporate body:

One book, several authors: write the first author’s last name, initial, then the next author’s initial, last name and add a “and” before the last author, reverse the last author’s to initial. last name:

A book chapter in a edition. The title of the book should be in italics, the chapter’s title in plain text. Please note that you should gives pages!

An edited conference proceedings. If you make the reference to the whole book:
If you are referring to a chapter in the edition:


Please note that no library catalogue will help you out in this, you will have to look at the book to get it right! Libris will just give the reference to the book as:

1977. Desertification: its causes and consequences. Oxford. – it is not complete or accurate!

An article in a journal, the journal’s name should be in italics, the article’s title itself in plain text. Please give the pages and the article’s unique doi number:


Reports. The title in plain text, no italics, give pages, and if the report is in an other language than English, give a remark of this and if the report has an English summary, give a remark of this:


Theses/Dissertations. The title should be in plain text, no italics. Don’t give pages:


Web pages:


Note: In the example above: give information within brackets that the database’s language is Swedish and also add a translation of the headword.

Good luck with writing and citing! Questions? Contact your local library.

Britta Smångs & Ulrika Björklund, 2020