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UCD Library

Vancouver Referencing Style

October 2021



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Vancouver Referencing Style

What is it?

Academic writing requires the author to support their arguments with reference to other published work or experimental results/findings. A reference system will perform three essential tasks:

- Enable you to acknowledge other authors ideas (avoid plagiarism).
- Enable a reader to quickly locate the source of the material you refer to so they can consult it if they wish.
- Indicate to the reader the scope and depth of your research.

The Vancouver system is a widely used referencing system to help you achieve these objectives.

How do I use the Style?

- The Vancouver system places bibliographic information at the bottom of a page or at the end of a paper. Bibliographic information **does not** appear within the text of a document.
- A **superscript number** is inserted in your text at the point where you refer to your source of information. A consecutive number is allocated to each source as it is referred to for the first time. This number becomes the unique identifier of that source and is reused each time that particular reference is cited in the text: *e.g. New data was summarized by Blake³ in a recent report.*
- The list of citations/reference list should appear at the end of your paper **in the order which they were cited.**
- Special abbreviations should be used when an item is cited for a second time and when an item is cited twice in a row.

What does it look like?

Here is an extract showing what **In-Text-Citations** look like in the Vancouver Style

More recently the assumption that targeting those with low serum levels of HDL-C will prevent events such as myocardial infarction, ischemic stroke or death, has been questioned.¹ The research upon which these assumptions were made was conducted over fifty years ago, and there has been some questioning about both the experimental design and the samples sizes generalised from.^{2,3} Due to this, and the huge variation in responses to treatment, under the same conditions, pharmacogenomics have been identified as possible way forward to cardiac care.⁴

Here is what a **Reference List** looks like in the Vancouver Style

1. Toth PP, Barylski M, Nikolic D, Rizzo M, Montalto G, Banach M. Should low high-density lipoprotein cholesterol (HDL-C) be treated? *Best Pract Res Clin Endocrinol Metab.* 2014;28(3):353-68.
2. Marks D, Wonderling D, Thorogood M, Lambert H, Humphries SE, Neil HA. Screening for hypercholesterolaemia versus case finding for familial hypercholesterolaemia: a systematic review and cost-effectiveness analysis. *Health Technol Assess.* 2000;4(29):1-123.
3. Taksler GB, Keshner M, Fagerlin A, Hajizadeh N, Braithwaite RS. Personalized estimates of benefit from preventive care guidelines: a proof of concept. *Ann Intern Med.* 2013;159(3):161-8.
4. Yip VL, Pirmohamed M. Expanding role of pharmacogenomics in the management of cardiovascular disorders. *Am J Cardiovasc Drugs.* 2013;13(3):151-62.

Quotation

The Vancouver Style advises that when using another's exact words, then those words must be placed in double inverted commas/quotation marks (e.g. ""). This is called a direct quotation and should be followed by the superscript reference number and page number where the direct quotation came from. A full reference should then appear in your reference list.

If unsure, always check with your lecturer or tutor.

Short quotations – less than 40 words

Short quotations are held to be less than 40 words in the Vancouver Style. An example of a short direct quotation would be

Cooper notes that “longitudinal and cross-sectional studies suggest an association between increasing n-3 PUFA intake and cognitive function.”^{4(p.1)}

Long quotations - 40 words or more

Long quotations in the Vancouver Style are held to have 40 words or more. These are laid out in a separate paragraph of text and indented clearly from the left margin. No inverted commas/quotation marks are included. A full reference is to be included in your reference list. An example of a long quotation would be

Cooper concludes that

In conclusion we have found no evidence of an effect of n-3 PUFA supplementation on cognitive performance in the general population or in those with ADHD and related disorders. There was suggestive evidence of improvements in those with low n-3 PUFA status. In order to provide a more conclusive picture future trials should employ larger sample sizes and should focus on supplementation of those who are n-3 PUFA deficient. It is suggested that regulators and producers of omega-3 products should consider this evidence when promoting their products.^{5(p.9)}

Below is a list of some common citation types along with examples of how they are laid out within the Vancouver system guidelines.

Book with one author

Reference: #. Author Last name Initials. Title. Edition. Place of publication: Publisher; Year of publication.

Example:

1. Bull MT. Sound moves: iPod culture and urban experience. London: Routledge; 2007.

In-Text-Citation:

Use a superscript number (like this: ¹) in the text at the place where you are indicating that you are citing from a source.

Example:

It has been generally found that iPod culture is greater in urban areas.¹

Book with two - six authors

Reference: #. Author(s) Last name Initials. Title. Place of publication: Publisher; Year of publication.

Example:

2. Murray PR, Rosenthal KS, Kobayashi GS, Pfaller MA. Medical microbiology. 4th ed. St. Louis: Mosby; 2002.

In-Text-Citation:

Use a superscript number (like this: ²) in the text at the place where you are indicating that you are citing from a source.

Example:

Scientists made a huge leap when it was discovered that HIV was the causative agent of AIDS.²

Book with more than six authors

Reference: #. First six author(s) Last name Initials, et al. Title. Place of publication: Publisher; Year of publication.

Example:

3. Phillips H, Rogers B, Bernheim KL, Liu H, Hunter PG, Evans J, et al. Community medicine in action. New York: Eastern Press; 2005.

In-Text-Citation:

Use a superscript number (like this: ³) in the text at the place where you are indicating that you are citing from a source.

Example:

Those working in community health, can use GIS mapping systems to plot the physical health outcomes for a geographical population.³

Book with a corporate author

Reference: #. Organization name. Title. Place of publication: Publisher; Year of publication.

Example:

4. Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development. Pedigree sheep breed improvement programme: performance results for lambs summer 2000. Cavan (Ireland): Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development; 2000.

In-Text-Citation:

Use a superscript number (like this: ⁴) in the text at the place where you are indicating that you are citing from a source.

Example:

It was found that numbers of lambs born in in Ireland in the year 2000 increased significantly compared to both the 1999 and 1998 figures.⁴

Book with an Editor

Reference: #. Editor(s) Last name Initials, editors. Title. Place of publication: Publisher; Year of publication.

Example:

5. Whisnant R, DesAutels P, editors. Global feminist ethics. Plymouth: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers; 2008.

In-Text-Citation:

Use a superscript number (like this: ⁵) in the text at the place where you are indicating that you are citing from a source.

Example:

The ethics of feminism globally have shifted seismically from post-world war era to the present day.⁵

eBook

Reference: #. Authors Last name Initials. Title [Internet]. Place of publication: Publisher; Date of Publication/Last updated [cited Year Month Day] Extent. Available from: URL

Example:

6. Patrias K, Wendling D, editors. Citing Medicine: The NLM Style Guide for Authors, Editors, and Publishers [Internet]. 2nd edition. Bethesda (MD): National Library of Medicine (US); 2007 [cited 2015 March 12]. Available from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK7256/>

In-Text-Citation:

Use a superscript number (like this: ⁶) in the text at the place where you are indicating that you are citing from a source.

Example:

Citing in medicine provides extensive guidance on how to cite a wide variety of reference formats.⁶

Note: Extent refers to length of eBook. This can be page numbers, number of paragraphs, screens or even the number of bytes etc.

Chapter in an edited book

Reference:#. Author(s) Last name Initials. Title of chapter. In: Editor(s) Last name Initials, editors. Title of book. Place of publication: Publisher; year of publication. Page numbers.

Example:

7. Meltzer PS, Kallioniemi A, Trent JM. Chromosome alterations in human solid tumors. In: Vogelstein B, Kinzler KW, editors. The genetic basis of human cancer. New York: McGraw-Hill; 2002. p. 93-113.

In-Text-Citation:

Use a superscript number (like this: ⁷) in the text at the place where you are indicating that you are citing from a source.

Example:

Chromosome changes can be seen over the course of growth of solid tumors.⁷

Print Journal article

Reference: #. Author(s) Last name Initials. Title of article. Abbreviated journal title. Year of publication; Volume (Issue): Pages.

Example:

8. Halpern SD, Ubel PA, Caplan AL. Solid-organ transplantation in HIV-infected patients. N Engl J Med. 2002; 347(4):284 -7.

In-Text-Citation:

Use a superscript number (like this: ⁸) in the text at the place where you are indicating that you are citing from a source.

Example:

Due to the impact of HIV infection, organ transplantation is often required over the course of the illness.⁸

Note: To find out the correct abbreviated journal title go to a database like PubMed and look up the journal (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nlmcatalog/journals>).

Print journal article, multiple authors

Reference: #. Author(s) Last name Initials. Title of article. Abbreviated journal title. Year of publication; Volume (Issue): Pages.

Example:

9. Lucan NM, Lee JH, Santorini T, Allerdyce MG, O'Carroll KB, Lowe HW. Optical nerve circulation in a zero gravity state. Exp Ani Circ. 2015 Mar; 25(4):55-89.

In-Text-Citation:

Use a superscript number (like this: ⁹) in the text at the place where you are indicating that you are citing from a source.

Example:

Long term vision impairment has been observed in animal subjects exposed to microgravity environments.⁹

E-journal article

Reference: #. Author(s) last name Initials. Title of article. Abbreviated journal title [Internet]. Year Month Day of publication [cited Year Month Day]; Volume (Issue): Pages. Available from: URL.

Example:

10. Abood S. Quality improvement initiative in nursing homes: the ANA acts in an advisory role. Am J Nurs [Internet]. 2002 Jun [cited 2002 Aug 12];102(6):966 - 969. Available from: <http://www.nursingworld.org/AJN/2002/june/Wawatch.htm>

In-Text-Citation:

Use a superscript number (like this:¹⁰) in the text at the place where you are indicating that you are citing from a source.

Example:

Abood describes the actions undertaken to improve care in nursing home settings.¹⁰

Print newspaper article

Reference: #. Author(s) Last name Initials. Title of article. Newspaper. Year Month Day of publication; Section: Page (Column).

Example:

11. Tynan T. Medical improvements lower homicide rate: study sees drop in death rate. The Washington Post. 2002 Aug 12;Sect. A:2 (col. 4).

In-Text-Citation:

Use a superscript number (like this: ¹¹) in the text at the place where you are indicating that you are citing from a source.

Example:

The advancement of emergency healthcare has lead to an improvement in death rates resulting from assault.¹¹

Newspaper article - online

Reference: #. Author(s) Last name Initials. Title of article. Newspaper [Internet]. Year Month Day of publication [cited Year Month Day]: Section: [Pages]. Available from: URL

Example:

12. Kelly M. Burden of Irish debt could yet eclipse that of Greece. Irish Times [Internet]. 2010 May 22 [cited 2011 May 4]; Opinion & Analysis:[about 3 screens]. Available from: <http://www.irishtimes.com/newspaper/opinion/2010/0522/1224270888132.html>

In-Text-Citation:

Use a superscript number (like this: ¹²) in the text at the place where you are indicating that you are citing from a source.

Example:

Kelly discusses how the debt burdened on the Irish economy might outweigh that loaded on the Greek economy.¹²

Website/Page on a website

Reference: #. Author(s). Webpage title [Internet]. Location: Publisher; Year of publication [updated Year Month Day; cited Year Month Day]. Available from: URL

Example:

13. American Medical Association. Medical leaders urge collection of demographic information as a step toward ending health care disparities [Internet]. Chicago: American Medical Association; 2011[updated 2011 April 28; cited 2011 May 4th]. Available from: <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/news/news/medical-leaders-urge-collection-demographic.page>

In-Text-Citation:

Use a superscript number (like this: ¹³) in the text at the place where you are indicating that you are citing from a source.

Example:

Measurement and gathering of economic, geographical, age profiles, and educational data of health service users can all help end inequality in health outcomes.¹³

Note: If no date of publication is available, use (undated) or (no date) instead of the date. This shows you have not just forgotten to include the date.

Blog

Reference: #. Author(s) Last name Initials. Title of blog entry. Year Month Day of blog entry [cited Year Month Day]. In: Title of blog [Internet]. City of publication: Publisher. Year Month Day of publication - .[pagination of blog entry]. Available from: URL

Example:

14. Walsh B. Lorenzo Bini Smaghi on the impact of Basel III. 2011 April 2 [cited 2011 May 4]. In: The Irish Economy [Internet]. Dublin: Irish Economy. 2008 December 2 - .[about 2 screen]. Available from: <http://www.irisheconomy.ie/index.php/2011/04/02/lorenzo-bini-smaghi-on-the-impact-of-basel-iii/>

In-Text-Citation:

Use a superscript number (like this: ¹⁴) in the text at the place where you are indicating that you are citing from a source.

Example:

Walsh's blog post highlights Lorenzo Bini Smaghi's interpretation of the Basel III agreement on the "real" european economy.¹⁴

Twitter

Reference: #. Author Surname Initials or Twitter name. Entire tweet or first few words: tweet url Year Month Day of Tweet [cited Year Month Day] [Tweet]. Available from: Twitter account url.

Example:

15. ProfJohnCrown. The waiting list story inhabits that increasingly crowded Irish healthcare borderland between tragedy and hilarity: <https://twitter.com/ProfJohnCrown/status/619996475267883008> 2015 July 11 [cited 2015 July 20] [Tweet]. Available from: @ProfJohnCrown.

In-Text-Citation:

Use a superscript number (like this: ¹⁵) in the text at the place where you are indicating that you are citing from a source.

Example:

Professor John Crown comments on the shockingly persistence of waiting lists in the Irish Healthcare system.¹⁵

Facebook

Reference: #. Author Surname Initials or Facebook name. Title of post or first few words: facebook post url Year Month Day of Tweet [cited Year Month Day] [Facebook]. Available from: Facebook account url.

Example:

16. UCD Veterinary Hospital. Milo's story: <https://www.facebook.com/ucdvet/20150417/milo> 2015 April 17 [cited 2015 May 1] [Facebook]. Available from: <https://www.facebook.com/ucdvet>

In-Text-Citation:

Use a superscript number (like this: ¹⁶) in the text at the place where you are indicating that you are citing from a source.

Example:

Milo was treated for a severe abscess on his back and chest wall at UCD Veterinary Hopsital.¹⁶

Government agency publication

Reference: #. Name of organization or agency. Title. Place of publication: Publisher; Year of publication.

Example:

17. Irish Department of Health & Children. A vision for change: report of the expert group on mental health policy. Dublin: Stationary Office, 2006.

In-Text-Citation:

Use a superscript number (like this: ¹⁷) in the text at the place where you are indicating that you are citing from a source.

Example:

Almost ten years on from the launch of this policy, we find little application of the associated service policies or resources in the Irish healthcare system.¹⁷

Parliamentary and legal material

Reference: #. Title, Jurisdiction [statute on the Internet]. Year of publication [cited Year Month Day]. Available from: URL

Example:

18. Equality, Integration, Disability and Human Rights (Transfer of Departmental Administration and Ministerial Functions) Order 2011, Ireland [statute on the Internet].c2011 [cited 2011 May 3]. Available from: <http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/2011/en/si/0139.html>

In-Text-Citation:

Use a superscript number (like this: ¹⁸) in the text at the place where you are indicating that you are citing from a source.

Example:

This statutory instrument transfers the responsibilities related to equality, integration, disability and human rights to the Department of Justice and Law Reform.¹⁸

EU publications

Reference: #. Organization name. Title. Place of publication: Publisher; Year of publication.

Example:

19. European Commission. Making globalisation work for everyone. Office for Official Publications of the European Communities: Luxembourg; 2003.

In-Text-Citation:

Use a superscript number (like this: ¹⁹) in the text at the place where you are indicating that you are citing from a source.

Example:

This report sets out a five point plan for tackling globalisation across both developing and developed nations.¹⁹

Conferences

Reference: #. Author(s) Last name Initials. Title of paper. In: Title of conference proceedings; Year Month Day(s) of conference; Location City, Country. Place of publication: Publisher; cYear of publication. Page numbers.

Example:

20. O'Connor J. Towards a greener Ireland. In: Discovering our natural sustainable resources: future proofing; 2009 March 15-16; Dublin, Ireland. Dublin: Environmental Institute; c2010. p. 65-69.

In-Text-Citation:

Use a superscript number (like this: ²⁰) in the text at the place where you are indicating that you are citing from a source.

Example:

O'Connor outlines her vision for using renewable energy sources.²⁰

Theses

Reference: #. Director(s) Last name initials. Title [Format]. Place of distribution: Distribution company, year.

Example:

21. Von Trier FH. Dissection and preservation techniques [DVD]. Rome: Lionsmane, 2015.

In-Text-Citation:

Use a superscript number (like this: ²¹) in the text at the place where you are indicating that you are citing from a source.

Example:

This film shows the dissection technique developed by Susini in eighteenth century Florence.²¹

Film or Television

Reference: #. Director(s) Last name initials. Title [Format]. Place of distribution: Distribution company, year.

Example:

22. Von Trier FH. Dissection and preservation techniques [DVD]. Rome: Lionsmane, 2015.

In-Text-Citation:

Use a superscript number (like this: ²²) in the text at the place where you are indicating that you are citing from a source.

Example:

This film shows the dissection technique developed by Susini in eighteenth century Florence.²²

Group assignments

Reference: #. Author(s) Last name Initials. Title of assignment. In: Title of module. Place of University: Name of University; Year Month Day of submission.

Example:

23. Sanib AE, Xioa, S, O'Shea CS. Communicating with patients experiencing extreme illness. In: MDSA40020 History Taking and communication. Galway: Galway University; 2015 May 25.

In-Text-Citation:

Use a superscript number (like this: ²³) in the text at the place where you are indicating that you are citing from a source.

Example:

From the sample of patients surveyed, it was reported that during periods of extreme illness, clear communication is still essential to appropriate care.²³

Datasets

Reference: #. Author Last name Initials. Title [medium type]. Host institution name: Physical location; Year of publication [cited Year Month Day]. Available from: Identifier/URL

Example:

24. Institute for Social and Economic Research. Understanding Society: Wave 1, 2009-2010 [data file]. University of Essex: Colchester, Essex; 2011. [cited 2013 May 29]. Available from: DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.5255/UKDA-SN-6614-2#sthash.FhHerloZ.dpuf>

In-Text-Citation:

Use a superscript number (like this: ²⁴) in the text at the place where you are indicating that you are citing from a source.

Example:

The WAVE data showed that a key factor in whether a mother returned to worked was the age of her youngest child.²⁴

Secondary Sources

In general, it is recommended to read the original source or item being quoted, rather than relying on another source.

Where this is not possible, and one must rely on a "secondary source," then these are the available guidelines on how to cite it

Reference: #. Author Last name Initials. Title. Edition. Place of publication: Publisher; Year of publication. pagination [i.e. how many pages are in the item].

Example:

25. Frogmantan, RW, Lewis, CS. The unusual case of how DNA was discovered. Dublin: Millar Press; 2007 641 p.

In-Text-Citation:

Use a superscript number (like this: ²⁵) in the text at the place where you are indicating that you are citing from a source.

Example:

Originally Crick and Watson, cited in Frogmantan and Lewis²⁵, identified DNA. This was done by putting an onion in a juice machine and extracting a single onion cell.

Note: Vancouver Style does not have explicit guidelines for secondary sources. These rules have been adapted with kind permission of the University of York. See their Online Guide for full details.

Lecture Notes

Reference: Author Last name Initials. Title of lecture [unpublished lecture notes]. Institution; Year Month Day when notes provided, [cited Year Month Day if notes online] url if available

Example:

26. Keane, SF. Emergency care in Ireland [unpublished lecture notes]. University College Dublin; 2017 May 31 [cited 2017 June 20]. Available from: www.ucd.ie/medicine/emergencycare.

In-Text-Citation:

Use a superscript number (like this: ²⁶) in the text at the place where you are indicating that you are citing from a source.

Example:

Emergency care in Ireland is fragmented and in need of major investment.²⁶

Note: It is recommended that if you are quoting information in lecture notes it is better to verify the information from a book or other reliable source and then reference that source.

Online Video (e.g. YouTube)

Reference: #. Title [Internet]. Place of publication/production: Publisher/Producer; Year Month of publication/production [cited Year Month Day]. Video: duration. Available from: url

Example:

27. Poetry readings @ UCD; Fuschia read by Siobhán Campbell [Internet]. Dublin, Ireland: University College Dublin Library; 2017 March 23 [cited 2017 April 1]. Video: 1:16 min. Available from: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eXbGG4oYSXQ>

In-Text-Citation:

Use a superscript number (like this: ²⁷) in the text at the place where you are indicating that you are citing from a source.

Example:

Campbell gives a vivid description of the Fuchsia bloom.²⁷



EndNote is a software application that allows researchers store and manage all references in one place. It is available via Software for U and the Library runs regular introductory and advanced training sessions.

- Users can record, store and manage references in hundreds of citation styles.
- Users can add references manually or search and download directly from online databases and library catalogues.
- EndNote Cite While You Write features allows users to insert citations easily and creates bibliographies automatically in Microsoft Word (and Apple's Pages '09 with EndNote version X2).

More information about Library support for Endnote is available on [EndNote Guide](#)¹.

¹ <http://www.ucd.ie/library/endnote>