Citing your Sources: References

Introduction

It is important that you give credit to the sources of information you use while creating your project or paper, because you have used someone’s intellectual property to inform your own work. You should reference sources whenever you use an idea, a paraphrase of someone’s words, or a direct quotation. Additionally, you want to be able to have a way of retracing your research, so that you and your teacher can look back on the sources you used. Ask your teacher which reference format you are required to follow (such as APA, MLA, or Chicago) and be consistent throughout your paper.

Citing Internet Sources

When citing Internet-only sources (especially websites), provide at least these items:

- the author (if possible)
- a document title or description
- a date (either publication date, update, and/or date of retrieval)
- an accurate address (URL)

Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (Date of publication). Title of document. Retrieved month day, year (only if the text may potentially change over time), from http://Web address

Examples of Online Sources

Some examples of APA references for on-line sources:

a) an electronic copy of a journal article (from a database)


b) a website

c) *daily newspaper article*


**Comprehensive Online Writing Guides**

The following sites provide detailed guides and examples to help you with your referencing. You will find explanations and examples for referencing various types of sources.

I. *Navigating the Research Highway: Referencing Sources*  
(gives examples of MLA, APA, and online citation generators)  
http://olc.spsd.sk.ca/de/onlineresearch/referencing.html

II. *The Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL)*  
(click on “APA Formatting and Style Guide” on right side tool bar)  
http://owl.english.purdue.edu/

III. University of Alberta  
Library Research/Writing/Citation Style Guides and Tutorials  
http://www.library.ualberta.ca/guides/index.cfm

**Citation Generators**

Citation and bibliography generators can be very helpful when trying to create your list of references. However, they are not “fool-proof.” You must still carefully analyze the references they produce and check for errors. Additionally, you must know the basics of what goes into creating a reference, so that all the necessary information is included in the reference.

*BibMe* is a bibliography generator that prompts the user to fill in the information about the source being cited. The user must carefully scan over the online source they want to reference in order to collect the information which must be entered into *BibMe*. When all possible information is completed, *BibMe* will provide a reference in APA, MLA or Chicago style, and the user can copy and paste the correct format into their reference list.

*BibMe*  
http://www.bibme.org/
References

Beardy, Nathan. Phone interview. 3 Apr. 2011.


Kusko, Robyn. Phone interview. 2 Apr. 2011.


Sawa DVM, Dr. Lesley. Phone interview. 28 Mar. 2011.
