

Vancouver Referencing

Study Guide

The **Vancouver Referencing System** is a citation style that uses numbers within the text that refer to numbered entries in the reference list. This type of referencing style is commonly used in medicine and scientific writing. However, check with your lecturer or course handouts for any specific requirements and follow their preferred referencing method.

Why reference your assignments?

Referencing your assignments avoids plagiarism by acknowledging the original author or source of the information. It enables your reader to evaluate the worth of your sources by reading your list and then being able to follow up on those resources for themselves.

What do you need to reference?

If you use someone else's ideas in your assignment you must include a reference to that idea in the body of the assignment and at the end of the assignment in a reference list. If you use exact words (quotations) from someone else's work, re-word (paraphrase), summarise or use specific information (diagrams, statistics, tables or images) from someone else's work, you need to reference that source.

In-text citations

A consecutive number is allocated to each reference as it is cited for the first time in the text of the assignment. This number becomes the unique identifier of that source and if the source is cited again the same number is repeated. Vancouver uses superscript numbers or standard numbers in brackets eg. ^{1-4,10,12} **OR** (1-4,10,12).

Enter in-text citations within your assignments, as shown below:

After the author's name:	Odell ¹ explains... OR Odell (1) explains...
To the right of commas and full stops:	...is a widely accepted theory. ³ OR ...is a widely accepted theory.(3)
To the left of colons and semi colons:	...lists the following ⁶ : motivation...
Multiple sources can be inserted at a single point separated by a comma. Consecutive citations are joined with a hyphen	...is an issue faced by many in the industry. ^{1,3,5-7}
If citing different pages from a single source at different places in the text , page numbers can be included in the in-text citation and the source listed once in the reference list. Page numbers can be added for direct quotations if necessary. ...pain response should be considered. ^{9(p83)} OR ...pain response should be considered.(9 p83)	
Note: If mentioning authors in text, only surnames are used. For a reference with two authors include both surnames (family names). Avery and Williams ¹ highlight the importance... For references with three or more authors, list the first author then et al. Azar et al ² reported on this association...	

Reference list

The reference list includes the full details of the books, journal articles, reports, websites, etc. that you cite in the text of your assignment. It is included at the end of your assignment with references listed in the numerical order in which they are cited in the assignment text.

Tips

- Use a new line for each resource
- Use [1] or (1) or ¹ in the main text for the first source you refer to, then [2] or (2) or ² for the second source etc.
- Use the same number each time you refer to the same source
- It is a good idea to collect all the publication details (title, author, publication details, links, etc.) for every source as you go – it may save you time later!

Components and Examples of referencing sources of information using the Vancouver Referencing System:

Information in this *Guide* is based on *Citing medicine: the NLM style guide for authors, editors, and publishers*: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/citingmedicine>

See this online Style Guide for examples of other source types **not included here**.

Printed format	Reference List
Book - list all authors/editors - if there are no authors, only editors, follow the last named editor with a comma and the word editor(s)	Component Author Surname Author Initials, Author Surname Author Initials. Title of book. Edition ed. Place of publication: Publisher; Publication year. Example Odell E. Cawson's essentials of oral pathology and oral medicine. 9th ed. Philadelphia: Elsevier; 2017.
Magazine/ newspaper article - list all authors/editors - Abbreviate and capitalize significant words in a journal title , but omit other words such as of/the/a/etc.	Component Author Surname Author Initials, Author Surname Author Initials. Title of article. Abbreviated Journal Title. Year;Volume (Issue): pages. Example Vlahov D, Freudenberg N, Galea S. Cities and population health. Soc Sci & Med. 2005;60(5): 1017-33.
Book - chapter in an edited book	Component Chapter Author Surname Author Initials. Title of chapter. In: Editor Surname Editor Initials, editor. Title of book. Edition ed. Place of publication: Publisher; Publication year. Chapter page range. Example Landorf K. Clinical trials: the good, the bad and the ugly. In: Liamputtong, P, editor. Research methods in health : foundations for evidence-based practice. 3 rd ed. Australia: Oxford; 2017. 274-290.
Pamphlets/ brochures/ timetables/ etc.	Component Author. Title of brochure/pamphlet [pamphlet]. Place of publication: Publisher; Year of publication. Example The Cancer Council South Australia. Physical activity & cancer prevention: making healthy choices [brochure]. Eastwood, Adelaide: The Cancer Council South Australia; 2005.

Online format	Reference List
eBook	Component Author Surname Author Initials, Author Surname Author Initials. Title of book [Internet]. Edition ed. Place of publication: Publisher; Publication year [cited Year Month Day]. Available from: URL or doi: DOI Example Holland K. Cultural awareness in nursing and health care : an introductory text [Internet]. 2nd ed. London : Hodder Arnold; 2010 [cited 2019 Mar 13]. Available from: https://tafesa.spydus.com/cgi-bin/spydus.exe/ENQ/WPAC/BIBENQ?BRN=229234

<i>eBook - chapter in an edited book</i>	<p>Component Chapter Author Surname Author Initials. Title of chapter. In: Editor Surname Editor Initials, editor. Title of book [Internet]. Edition ed. Place of publication: Publisher; Publication year [cited Year Month Day]: Chapter page range. Available from: URL or DOI</p> <p>Example Broder H., Skolnick M., Schlusser Y. Diversity, sociocultural issues, and communication in oral health care. In: Gluck G., Morganstein W., editors. Jong's community dental health. 5th ed. London: Mosby; 2003 [cited 2019 Mar 15]: 105-130. Available from: https://books.google.com.au/books?id=t6Gr5ND9KqgC&lpg=PR4&dq=dental%20health&pg=PR4#v=onepage&q=dental%20health&f=false</p>
<i>eJournal article</i>	<p>Component Author Surname Author Initials. Title of article. Title of Journal [Internet]. Publication Year [cited Year Month Day];Volume(Issue):Pages. Available from: URL or doi: DOI</p> <p>Example Alzoubi EE, Borg VT, Gatt G, Aguis AM, Attard N. The importance of oral health education in patients receiving orthodontic treatment. J Oral Res Rev [Internet]. 2019 [cited 2019 Mar 13];11(1):12-19 Available from: http://www.jorr.org/temp/JOralResRev11112-4669584_011749.pdf</p>
<i>eJournal article from a database</i>	<p>Component Author Surname Author Initials. Title of article. Title of Journal [Internet]. Publication Year Month Day [cited Year Month Day];Volume(Issue):Pages. Available from: URL or doi: DOI</p> <p>Example Mayze L, Pawlak J, Rogers M, Smith M. Oral health of adolescents in the Colac-Otway Shire. Aust J Rrl Hlth [Internet]. 2019 Feb [cited 2019 Mar 13];27(1):93-8. Available from: https://search.ebscohost.com/</p>
<i>Electronic discussion lists/newsgroups/list servers</i>	<p>Component Author Surname Author Initials. Title for Message. In: Title [Type of Medium]. Place of Publication: Publisher; Date [cited Year Month Day]. [Length]. Available from: URL</p> <p>Example Ramirez AG. NPM1 gene mutation in AML. In: AML-Listserv [Internet]. New York: Association of Cancer Online Resources; 2007 Jan 12 [cited 2007 Jan 14]. [about 3 screens]. Available from: http://insertwebaddresshere</p>
<i>Fact sheet/information sheet downloaded from a website</i>	<p>Component Author Surname Author Initials. Title of article. Title of Website [Internet]. Publication Year [cited Year Month Day]; Pages. Available from: URL</p> <p>Example Arthritis Australia. Arthritis information sheet: healthy eating and arthritis. Arthritis Australia [Internet]. 2017 [cited 2019 Mar 18]; 2 pages. Available from: https://arthritisaustralia.com.au/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/ArthAus_HealthyEating_1805.pdf</p>
<i>Weblog/blog</i>	<p>Component Author Surname Author Initials. Title. [Internet]. Place of Publication Publisher; Date of Publication [cited Year Month Day]. Available from: URL</p> <p>Example Holt M. The Health Care Blog [Internet]. San Francisco: Matthew Holt; 2003 Oct [cited 2007 May 16]. Available from: http://www.thehealthcareblog.com</p>

<i>Website/page</i>	<p>Component Author Surname Author Initials. Title of website [Internet]. Publisher; Year [cited Year Month Day]. Available from: URL</p> <p>Example Australian Dental Association. Dental Practice [Internet]. Australian Dental Association (ADA); 2019 [cited 2019 Mar 13]. Available from: https://www.ada.org.au/Dental-Professionals/Policies/Dental-Practice</p> <p>NOTE: For websites/pages with no known author, do not include the author entry as shown in red above.</p>
<i>Episode of a television program such as SBS/ABC iView/YouTube</i>	<p>Component Author. Title of website [Internet]. Year. Title of video [Video]. [cited Year Month Day]; [Number of minutes., Number of seconds.]. Available from: URL</p> <p>Example Dalhousie University. Brushing up on mouth care [Internet]. 2013. Oral Health Basics [Video]. [cited 2019 Mar 13]; [17 min., 56 sec.]. Available from: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U2z24vhTeV0</p>
Other Types of Formats	Reference List
<i>DVD / Video</i>	<p>Component Author Surname Author Initials. Title of DVD [DVD]. Place of publication: Publisher; Publication year. [Number of DVD: Number of minutes.].</p> <p>Example Queensland Health. Smile baby smile : healthy teeth for life ; protects your baby's teeth [DVD]. Brisbane, Qld: Queensland Health; 2011. [1 DVD: 11 min.].</p>
<i>Letter and Other Personal Communication</i>	<p>Component Author Surname Author Initials. Letter to: Recipient. Year Month Day.</p> <p>Example Reed, W (Army Medical Museum, Washington, DC). Letter to: W.S. Halstead (Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, MD). 1985 Apr 10.</p>
<i>Podcast</i>	<p>Component Author. Title of website [Internet]. Year. Title of podcast [Podcast]. [cited Year Month Day]; [Number of minutes., Number of seconds.]. Available from: URL</p> <p>Example Holmes A. Delivering WOW [Internet]. 2019. Increasing practice efficiency and communication with Mike Buckner [Podcast]. [cited 2019 Mar 18]; [2 min., 25 sec.]. Available from: https://www.deliveringwow.com/2019/03/07/increasing-practice-efficiency-and-communication-with-mike-buckner/</p>

Information in this *Guide* is based on:

Patrias K. Citing medicine: the NLM style guide for authors, editors, and publishers [Internet]. 2nd ed. Wendling DL, technical editor. Bethesda (MD): National Library of Medicine (US); 2007 - [updated 2015 Oct 2; cited 2019 March 12]. Available from: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/citingmedicine>