Citing Sources Using Vancouver Documentation

When you document your sources using the Vancouver style (used most often in the medical field), you have to use numbers within the body of your paper to refer readers to the list of references and the bibliography page at the end of your paper. The numbers are placed in parentheses (or in superscript) immediately after a quotation, a paraphrase, or a summary.

**In-text parenthetical citations**: Whenever you use a quotation, a paraphrase, or a summary, you should assign a number to that source in the order in which the sources are used, and that number always pertains to the same source, no matter how often or where the source is used. To include a page number for the source, simply add it after the source number. (6 p17)

**End-of-paper citations**: A Reference List includes all the sources mentioned in the paper in the order in which they were used. A Bibliography includes the sources consulted but not specifically mentioned in the paper, and these sources are arranged alphabetically by the authors’ last names (or the title if no author is credited). Both the Reference List and the Bibliography typically include three basic types of information: first, the author (last name and initial of first name and middle name); second, the title (with only the first word and proper nouns capitalized); and, third, the publication information (which varies somewhat from one source to another).

Also, if you are using an online source, such as a web page or a database, you should indicate the date of retrieval and the online address or the name of the database. Note, too, citations are single spaced with no indentations. Some examples are listed below.

**Book with no author listed (start with the title)**


**Book by one author**


**Book by two or more authors**

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An article or chapter in an edited book (anthology)


Article from a newspaper (if no author is listed, start with the title)

Nearing B. State energy plan: less is more. Times Union (Albany, NY). 2009 Dec 16; Sect. D1-D2

Article from a magazine (if no author is listed, start with the title)

Posnanski J. The running back, the cheerleader, and what came after the greatest college football game ever. Sports Illustrated. 2009 Dec 28; 58-64

Article from a journal (if no author is listed, start with the title)

Giaquinto RA. Instructional issues and retention of first-year students. J Coll Stud Ret 2009-2010; 11(2): 267-85 (Note: “11” is the volume number, and “2” is the issue number.)

Article from a reference book (if no author is listed, start with the title)


Article from a database (if no author is listed, start with the title)


Webpage (if no author is listed, start with the title)


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