

Literature Citation

When writing a research paper, literature citation is important for the following two reasons: (1) to avoid plagiarism (which is against the student code of conduct and is grounds for failing the course) and (2) to assign proper authority to a statement (this adds weight to your paper). You may use any style of literature citation as long as the proper authorities are cited in the text and full references are provided at the end of your paper. Here is an example of a style that is common in the biological literature.

In-Text Citations

Whether you are directly quoting or paraphrasing, your reference is cited in the text, before the end of the statement. The in-text citation consists of the author(s) last name(s) and the year of publication. For example,

Drosophila magnaquinaria, fruit flies that are only found on skunk cabbage, prefer other hosts for feeding, egg-laying, and larval development than they do skunk cabbage (Courtney and Kibota, 1990).

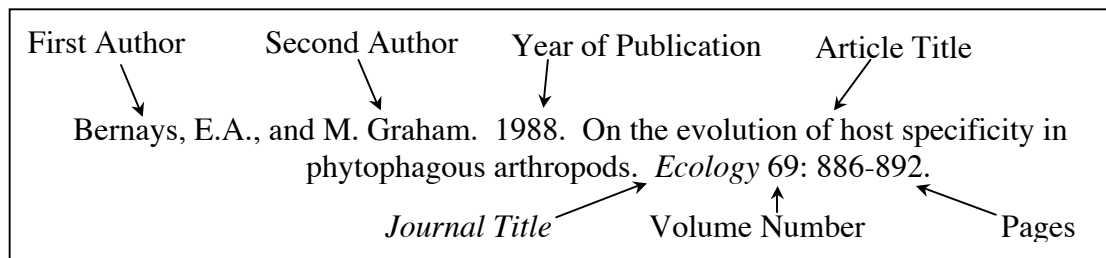
If there are more than two authors, then you may list the first author's name followed by *et al.* For example,

Mutational studies of *Daphnia*, *Drosophila*, *Caenorhabditis*, and *Escherichia* all provide estimates for the genomic deleterious mutation rate (Lynch *et al.*, 1999).

If you don't know the name of the author (if the information comes from a website, for example), then you may list the website title or URL in place of the author's name).

Example Literature Cited Section

The Literature Cited Section provides complete references. You may organize them in alphabetical order based on the last name of the first author. Websites may be listed by their title (or URL if there is no title) if the author is unknown. The date of publication, article title, journal or magazine title (written in *italics*), year of publication, and page numbers should be provided.



An example Literature Cited page is given on the next page.

Literature Cited

Courtney, S.P. and T.T. Kibota. 1990. Mother doesn't know best: selection of hosts by ovipositing insects. In: Bernays, E.A. (ed) *Plant-Insect Relationships* vol. 2. CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL, pp. 161-188.

Chapter in a book

Genetics Society of America. October 12, 2004. Statement on GMOs. http://genetics.faseb.org/genetics/ggsa/statement_on_modifiedorganisms.shtml

Website with no author and no publication date (date info was obtained is given)

Hitchcock, C.L. and A. Cronquist. 1976. *Flora of the Pacific Northwest: an Illustrated Manual*. University of Washington Press, Seattle, Wa.

Book

Harris, P. 2003. The history of host range testing for classical weed biocontrol agents. http://res2.agr.ca/lethbridge/weedbio/hist_e.htm

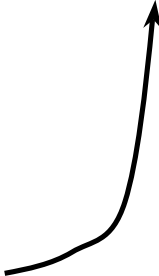
Website with author and date of publication

Lynch, M., J. Blanchard, D. Houle, T. Kibota, S. Schultz, L. Vassilieva, and J. Willis. 1999. Perspective: Spontaneous deleterious mutations. *Evolution* 53: 645-663.

Journal Article

Yoon, C.K. 2003. Is evolution truly random? *New York Times* November 11, page F.11

Newspaper article



These describe the type of literature source that was used. Don't include these boxed descriptions in your literature cited section.