

Quick Guide :: ANATOMY OF A CITATION

What is a Citation?

A citation is the basic information required to identify or locate a specific publication (book, article, video, etc.). Citations are provided in print and electronic indexes and catalogs to identify resources. They are also included in research papers, articles, and books to reference text that has been quoted or a source that has been used as an authority.

Parts of a Citation

Book Parts—

- : Author(s) or Editor(s)
- : Book Title
- : Edition
- : Publication Date
- : Publisher & Place of Publication

Article Parts—

- : Article Title
- : Author(s)
- : Page Numbers
- : Periodical Title
- : Publication Date
- : Volume & Issue

Style Guides

Citations can be formatted in differently depending on what style guide is being used as a reference. Below are two styles guides used often to format research papers.

Modern Language Association (MLA)

Disciplines: Arts and Humanities

MLA Quick Guide:

<http://www.lib.ucdavis.edu/dept/hss/mla.php>

American Psychological Association (APA)

Disciplines: Social Sciences

APA Quick Guide:

<http://www.lib.ucdavis.edu/dept/hss/apa.php>

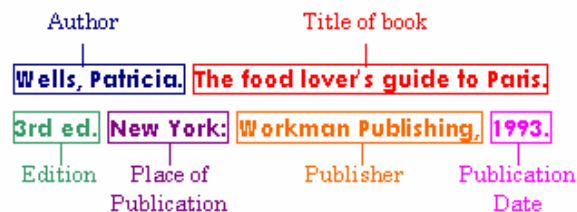
Research Tips

Some suggestions to make the research process more quick and efficient:

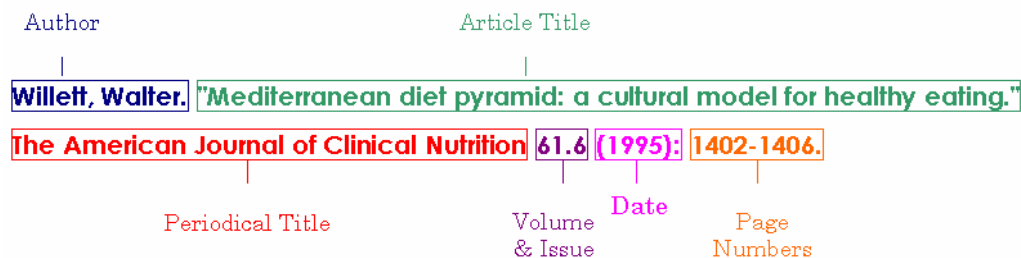
Use the Harvest Catalog:

- a) When you have a complete citation for an article – use Harvest to do a browse search for the periodical title.
- b) **VIP:** When locating print editions of an article, you will need the Volume, Issue, & Page Number, in addition to the Call Number for the periodical.

Anatomy of a Book Citation



Anatomy of an Article Citation



Note: Citation examples are formatted in MLA style