

## Proper Reference/Citation Style for Economics Papers

Economics students are expected to follow the author-date system of references, as used by the American Economic Association and the large majority of economics journal articles. The essence of this system of references is:

1. Within the body of a paper, all references to sources should be placed in the main text, using the author's or authors' last name(s), and the year of publication. For example:

Betts and McFarland (1995) find that a 1% increase in the unemployment rate increases community college enrollment by 4.5%. Similarly, Dellas and Sakellaris (2003) find that an increase in the unemployment rate significantly increases the probability that a high school graduate enrolls in a two-year or four-year public college.

Do not put authors' first names, journal title, the phrase "a study by", or other information into the text of your paper. Mention sources in the text itself, not in footnotes. When you refer to more than one paper by one author or set of authors from the same year, use letters to distinguish them, for example, Arrow (1987a) and Arrow (1987b).

2. Full citation information for all sources used should be in the bibliography, which should be alphabetical by authors' last name(s), and for multiple papers by one author or set of authors, in reverse chronological order. Examples of citing a journal article, a book, a chapter within an edited volume, a working paper, and a newspaper article:

Betts, Julian R., and Laurel L. McFarland (1995). "Safe Port in a Storm: The Impact Of Labor Market Conditions on Community College Enrollments." *Journal of Human Resources* (30): 741-765.

Carlson, Jerry S., Barbara B. Burn, John Useem, and David Yachimowicz (1990). *Study Abroad: The Experience of American Undergraduates*. New York: Greenwood Press.

Holland, Kenneth M., and Ben L. Kedia (2003). "Internationalizing Business Students Through The Study Abroad Experience: Opportunities and Challenges" in *Study Abroad: Perspectives and Experiences from Business Schools*, edited by G. Thomas M. Hult and Elvin C. Lashbrooke, 115-140. Amsterdam: JAI.

Rizzo, Michael J. and Ronald G. Ehrenberg (2003) "Resident and Non-Resident Tuition and Enrollment at Flagship State Universities," NBER Working Paper # 9516.

Zennett, William J. (1987) "Our Greedy Colleges," *New York Times*, Feb. 18, A31.

When a source found online has been published, always cite the publication information, not the online location, because the publication information is permanent and the online location is not. When a source is online but not published, then include the DOI, or the URL if no DOI is available, in the citation.

For more details, see the AEA sample references:

[http://www.aeaweb.org/sample\\_references.pdf](http://www.aeaweb.org/sample_references.pdf)

or the Chicago Manual of Style Online, chapter 15:

[http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/16/ch15/ch15\\_sec005.html](http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/16/ch15/ch15_sec005.html)