WHY IS REFERENCING IMPORTANT?

- To acknowledge the sources of information you have used just as authors of books and journal articles list the sources they have used.
- It is academic courtesy to acknowledge the work of others – none of us know everything and we rely on the work of others.
- Your lecturers/readers need to see from where you obtained your information.
- Your lecturers/readers need to see how widely you have read and whether you have used key sources and how up to date your information is.
- Your lecturers/readers need to be able to check on the information you have used.
- Plagiarism – using someone else’s ideas as if they were your own is unacceptable and a punishable offence.

TERMINOLOGY USED IN THIS GUIDE

- Bibliography – a detailed list of all sources of information consulted but not necessarily cited.
- Citation – a reference to a particular source of information.
- List of works cited – a detailed list of all sources of information consulted and cited.
- Source – the published or unpublished literature to which you have referred such a book or a journal article.

LIST OF WORKS CITED / BIBLIOGRAPHY

- A ‘List of works cited’ / Bibliography appears at the end of your assignment.
- Only secondary sources are listed in a ‘list of works cited’. All secondary sources used must be listed.
- The secondary sources are presented in one alphabetical sequence by authors’ surnames.
- Fuller details than in footnotes, about the information sources you have used, appear in the ‘list of works cited’, for example publication details are included.
- Primary literature such as cases and statutes are listed separately. These are also listed in alphabetical order. Thus a full list of works cited comprises three parts: secondary sources; cases; statutes.
- Indexes are not included as they are finding tools and not actual sources of information.
- This guide indicates the details that must be included about each type of source of information, the order of these details and punctuation conventions.
EXAMPLES OF REFERENCES FOR A ‘LIST OF WORKS CITED’

BOOKS

Basic format
Author(s); title; edition statement; city (of publisher) and name of publisher; and year of publication.

- These details must be written in the above order: it is very important to be consistent
- An author is the person responsible for the item; you may find the author referred to as an editor, compiler etc.
- With author’s names, always write the surname first
  - Use initials for first names with no spaces in between
  - Where there are one to three authors, write down all of their names with commas in-between names
  - Where there are more than three authors, write down the name of the first followed by: …et al.
  - When no author is obvious, start with the title or use anon short for anonymous
- The title of a book must always be underlined or in italics if you are Word processing
- The edition statement is represented by the abbreviation ed. not edition
  - If a book has no edition statement it means it is a first edition so it is not necessary to write in 1st edition; only editions other than the first are indicated
- The name of a city not a country is given in the publication details
  Where more than one city of publication is given, use only the first
- Only one publisher must be given; choose the first if there is more than one
- If any detail is unclear, put what you think it is in square brackets
- Be careful of punctuation; follow the examples below
- For multivolume works indicate the volume/s used.

Book by a single author

Books by more than three authors

Books in multiple volumes

Chapter/s in a book where chapters are written by different authors. Details about the chapter precede details about the book. Include volumes and pagination/paragraphs of sections used.

Corporate bodies as authors – companies, organizations, institutions

Reports of government departments – including white papers, etc.
- **Annual report of a government department**
- **Commissions of inquiry and government committees**
  Chairperson of the commission is the author
- **White papers**

**JOURNAL AND NEWSPAPER ARTICLES**

**Basic format**
Surname(s) of author(s) of article and initials; title of article (in double quotation marks); year of publication (in brackets); volume and part number; title of journal (underlined or in italics); pages.
- The titles of journals may be abbreviated eg AS instead of Annual Survey
- Each word of the journal title is capitalised
- The journal itself is the most important item – if you do not know in which journal an article is published you will not be able to find the article. The details about the journal always come last
- Name of publisher and city of publication are never included in journal references.

**Examples:**


**ELECTRONIC SOURCES**

**CD ROMS, Videos, etc.**

**Basic format:**
Follow the format of references for books, periodicals etc as far as possible and make the following additions:
- Type of format is given at the end of the reference eg CD ROM

**Examples:**

ONLINE FULL-TEXT SOURCES

Basic format
Follow the format of references for books, periodicals etc as far as possible and make the following additions:

- URL (or file address in the case of full-text on-line sources) including the access mode identifier eg http, gopher etc. where applicable

1. For large bibliographic database collections subscribed to by the library such as EBSCOhost, which have extremely long URLs, or URLs that comprise lots of symbols and characters, URLs do not have to be cited. Indicate which specific database you used eg EBSCOhost Research Databases and if necessary the specific database eg EBSCOhost(Academic Search Complete).

2. For database collections such as Juta; Lexis-Nexis; Westlaw where individual documents do not have URLs, use the URL of the site’s home page. Indicate which specific database you used.

3. If you proceed from the home page to a document via a sequence of links which is not obvious, follow the URL with the word Path: and specify the sequence of steps.

- The date the site was accessed – since electronic texts can be easily altered, each access to an online source must be considered unique so the date of access must be indicated
- For e-mail messages, sender and recipient’s address along with date and title of communication
- With many electronic journal articles volume numbers and pagination may be missing.

Examples

Books – including dictionaries, encyclopedias and reports


Government publications and government websites

Journal and newspaper articles

a) direct link to journal/newspaper


b) via a full-text database where there is only a site URL

c) via a database collection with an extremely long URL such as EBSCO

Electronic publications where there is only a site URL and/or a path may have to be specified to indicate the steps used to get to a particular document


LAW REPORTS AND STATUTES

- Law reports are listed separately from statutes and the secondary sources. They are listed alphabetically by names of the parties. Include the full citation for each case. South African cases are usually listed separately from foreign cases
- Statutes are also recorded in a separate alphabetical list
- It is not necessary to indicate whether the version of the case or Act is electronic or print
- Government Gazette references usually only appear in-text or in the footnotes.

Examples: Cases
Carey v Jones 1998 2 SA 467 (A)
Myers v Brown 1974 3 SA 24 (C)
S v Hlengwa 2003 1 SACR 107 (N)

Examples: Statutes
Criminal Procedure Act 51 of 1977
  s 1
  s 3
  s 12

Patents Act 11 of 1984
  s 33
  s 35
Government gazette references usually only appear in text or in the footnotes, not in a list of works cited.
BASIC DIFFERENCES BETWEEN A REFERENCE IN A LIST OF WORKS CITED AND A FOOTNOTE

**LIST OF WORKS CITED**


**FOOTNOTE**

- 1. RWM Dias *Jurisprudence* 5 ed. (1985) 36

| 1. List at the end of the assignment | 1. Footnoted items are at the bottom of the page in the order in which they are referred to in the text |
| 2. Items in alphabetical order by author’s surnames | 2. Footnotes numbered sequentially from 1 |
| 3. Full bibliographic details | 3. Briefer details than in a bibliography eg. exclude city and name of publisher |
| 4. Secondary sources only | 4. Any source of information can be footnoted |
| 5. A separate table of cases and statutes | 6. Shortcut words can be used eg. *ibid*, *op cit*, *loc cit* and *supra* |

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism “is turning in or passing off someone else’s work as your own”. “Putting someone else’s work into your own words does not make it yours”.

“In an intellectual community ideas are passed around freely as most intellectual inquiry could not take place without borrowing from the work of others. Responsible, honest writers indicate their debt to others by clearly citing the material they have borrowed”.

1. **Direct plagiarism** – copying word for word what someone else has written without indicating it is a quote and without acknowledging the author. Copying a fellow student’s work and passing it off as your own is plagiarism

2. **Vague or incorrect citation** – a writer needs to indicate very clearly which sentences or paragraphs or pieces of information are from which source. The reference to a piece of information should come immediately after the information has been written.

3. **Mosaic plagiarism** – this is the most common type of plagiarism. The writer does not copy word for word but changes a few words here and there without actually changing the form of a sentence or paragraph so that the writing is very close to the original; and fails to acknowledge the source of the information.

AVOIDING PLAGIARISM

When in doubt….acknowledge ALL the sources of all the information you include

**Quote** – if you copy exactly what is in the text place the entire quotation must be in double quotation marks/inverted commas (“”) and acknowledge the source

**Summarizing in your own words** – it is often preferable to summarize a piece of text or ideas in your own words as this indicates your understanding and ability to write succinctly. Even though you summarize, you must acknowledge the source of the information. Summarizing does not make the information yours.

Taken from DePauw University Academic Resource Centre web site: ww.depauw.edu/admin/arc/writing_center/plag.asp