The Style of the Final Reference List

There are lots of styles for referencing sources in research papers, and publications and journals tend to prefer a particular style for the work they publish. It is, therefore, useful to familiarize yourself with the most common referencing styles. Here I have included examples of IEEE and APA style reference lists because they are commonly used in engineering and science research papers. The general guideline for any style of reference list is to include:

- Author(s)'s name

- Year of publication

- Title of journal/book

- Publisher/place of publication

- Page number/volume number (for a journal article)

APA Style

The American Psychological Association (APA) represents psychologists and scientists in the USA. It has developed a very widely used style guide. In the APA reference style, the reference list should be listed alphabetically according to the first author's surname.

References

Chou, R. J. (2013). Addressing watercourse sanitation in dense, water pollution-affected urban areas in Taiwan. *Environment & Urbanization,* 25(2), 523–540. doi:10.1177/0956247813501140.

Schall, J. (2013). *Effective technical writing in the information age*. Retrieved 15 July 2014 from https://www.e-education.psu.edu/styleforstudents/c2.html.

Smith, J., & Thomson, A. (2014). *The Polluted Rivers*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Valur, D. H. (2004). Restructuring robots for new markets. In D. Collins & M. Bum (Eds.), *Market Driven Technology Development* (pp. 115–131). Chichester, England: Wiley.

IEEE Style (from the University of Pittsburg website)

The Institute for Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) is a professional organization supporting many branches of engineering, computer science, and information technology. In addition to publishing journals, magazines, and conference proceedings, IEEE also makes many standards for a wide variety of industries.

IEEE citation style includes in-text citations, numbered in square brackets, which refer to the full citation listed in the reference list at the end of the paper. The reference list is organized numerically, not alphabetically.

In-text Citing

It is not necessary to mention an author's name, pages used, or date of publication in the in-text citation. Instead, refer to the source with a number in a square bracket, e.g. [1], that will then correspond to the full citation in your reference list.

Place bracketed citations within the line of text, before any punctuation, with a space before the first bracket.

Number your sources as you cite them in the paper. Once you have referred to a source and given it a number, continue to use that number as you cite that source throughout the paper.

When citing multiple sources at once, the preferred method is to list each number separately, in its own brackets, using a comma or dash between numbers, as such: [1], [3], [5] or [1] - [5].

The below examples are from Murdoch University's IEEE Style LibGuide.

Examples of in-text citations:

"...end of the line for my research [13]."

"This theory was first put forward in 1987 [1]."

"Scholtz [2] has argued that..."

"Several recent studies [3], [4], [15], [16] have suggested that...."

"For example, see [7]."

Creating an IEEE Style Reference List

The Reference List appears at the end of your paper and provides the full citations for all the references you have used. List all references numerically in the order they've been cited within the paper, and include the bracketed number at the beginning of each reference.

Title your list as **References** either centered or aligned left at the top of the page.

Create a hanging indent for each reference with the bracketed numbers flush with the left side of the page. The hanging indent highlights the numerical sequence of your references.

- The author's name is listed as first initial, last name. Example: Adel Al Muhairy would be cited as A. Al Muhairy (NOT Al Muhairy, Adel).
- The title of an article is listed in quotation marks.
- The title of a journal or book is listed in italics.

References

[1]   R. J. Chou, Addressing watercourse sanitation in dense, water pollution-affected urban areas in Taiwan. *Environment & Urbanization,* 25(2), 523–540, 2013.

[2]   J. Schall, *Effective technical writing in the information age*. [online] Available: www.e-education.psu.edu/styleforstudents/c2.html. 2013.

[3]   J. Smith & A. Thomson, *The Polluted Rivers*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2014.

[4]   D. H. Valur, Restructuring robots for new markets. In *Market Driven Technology Development,* D. Collins & M. Bum Eds., Chichester, England: Wiley, pp115-131, 2004.