Citations

Introduction

In order to locate the sources you've found through a database search, or in footnotes or a bibliography at the end of a book or article, you must be able to interpret citations. A citation, sometimes called a bibliographic citation, is a reference to a particular source. It provides enough detail that the reader can identify and locate a copy of the original item.

Citations can refer to various types of information sources, including books, parts or chapters of books, magazine articles, journal articles, newspaper articles, dissertations, government documents, recordings, videos, interviews, or Internet sources. Some of the most common types of citations are explained below.

(NOTE: For help writing citations, see Citing Sources)

Book

A book citation typically includes the author, title, place of publication, publisher, and date of publication.


To find out whether Steely Library or the Chase Law Library owns a particular book, check NKUIRE, our online catalog.

Chapter or Essay in a Book

A citation for part of a book typically includes the author and title of the chapter, the pages on which the chapter appears, the title of the book itself, the editor or author of the book, and the place, publisher and date of publication.


To find out whether Steely Library or Chase Law Library owns a particular book, check NKUIRE, our online catalog. Be sure to search for the title or editor of the book, not the chapter.

Magazine or Journal Article

Periodical article citations typically include author, title of the article, title of the periodical, volume (and sometimes issue) number, page numbers, and date of publication.
Citations


To find out whether Steely Library or Chase Law Library owns a particular periodical, check NKUIRE, our online catalog. Be sure to search for the title of the periodical, not the article title.

Newspaper Article

A citation for a newspaper article typically includes author (if an author is indicated), title (headline) of the article, title of the newspaper, date of publication, section, page and column.

In scientific leap, dozens of mice are cloned. New York Times, Jul 26 1998, 4, 2:2

To find out if Steely Library owns a particular newspaper, look up the title of the newspaper (not the headline or article title) in NKUIRE, the online catalog.

Government Document

A typical government document citation includes the author (frequently an agency name, such as US Department of Commerce), the title of the document, and the place, publisher and date.


To find out whether Steely Library owns a Government Document, first check NKUIRE. If nothing is found, ask a Reference librarian for additional help.

Internet Source

A citation for an Internet source typically includes the author, title, URL (address) and date.


To find the Internet source, type the Internet address into the browser.