

Citation Styles

at the Department of Geography and Regional Studies

Basic notes regarding seminar papers, and Bachelor and Master theses

According to a classic concept of science, the science of today can only be defined on the basis of the (intellectual) traditions and the achievements of previous generations of scientists. An allegory describes the relationship of today's science to that of years past as "dwarves upon the shoulders of giants" – in other words, the dwarves (today's scientists, and this also includes you, as students) benefit from the achievements of the past. When we add our own modest contribution to the treasure of knowledge that we have discovered, we can only do so by standing on the "shoulders of the giants" of earlier scientific generations. Only in this way can we, the dwarves, tower above the giants. In relation to producing academic work at the university this means that you must mark (cite) everything that you borrow from the "giants" in an appropriate manner - as the "rules of good academic practice" demand. If you do not comply with these rules, you are guilty of the unlawful appropriation of the intellectual property of others. This has serious consequences for your studies, and in the worst case can lead to your name being removed from the register of students. The Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt applies the following definition of "plagiarism" to all scientific disciplines represented here:

Plagiarism is the unlawful appropriation of intellectual property or findings of others and their use for personal gain.

The most common forms of plagiarism in academic work are:

- The literal transcription of one or more text passages without quoting a corresponding source (direct plagiarism).
- The reproduction or paraphrasing of a line of thought, where individual words and the sentence structure are changed so that the original source of the idea is obscured (indirect plagiarism).
- The translation of ideas and text passages from a piece of work written in a foreign language, again without mentioning the source.
- The adoption of metaphors, idioms or elegant linguistic creations without quoting their source.
- The use of quotations, which one has discovered in works of secondary literature, to support one's own argument, whereby the quotations are properly documented, however, the secondary literature used is not referenced (citation plagiarism).

The issue of the "correct" citation style in seminar papers, and Bachelor and Master theses is frequently accompanied by uncertainty. The following pointers are intended as guidelines, but cannot be described as "correct" in any comprehensive sense, as they merely provide an example of ONE citation style. **The golden citation rule states: Ensure that your references are cited in a comprehensive and consistent manner.**

Quoting references in the text

Every single idea, argument or piece of information which you obtain from a source (i.e., which is not genuinely yours – and this is the minimum (!), as you gather virtually all your information "about the world" from secondary sources such as the media, or stories, and very little is truly "perceived by yourself") must be furnished with a source of reference. In the text you refer to quoted literature by recording the surname(s), year and page number in brackets (e.g. Müller 2010). In the case of two authors, you connect the names with "and" or "&", or "/" (e.g. Müller and Meier 2011, Müller & Meier 2011 or Müller/Meier 2011). Where there are three authors or more, only the first-named author is listed, followed by the adjunct "et al." (= lat. et alii, abbreviation for "and others"). Thus, when quoting from a publication by Heiner

Müller, Axel Meier and Theo Schulz from the year 2012, the reference should be cited as: Müller et al. 2012.

When used in the text, paraphrases are distinguished from direct quotations by the addition of “compare” (abbreviated “cf.”) before the surname.

Example of a direct quotation

Some statements on gender and feminist geography sound more like a political programme of women`s rights rather than an outline of academic contributions. “Feminist geography is concerned first and foremost with improving women`s lives by understanding the sources, dynamics and spatiality of women`s oppression, and with documenting strategies of resistance” (Dixon and Jones 2006, 42).

Example of a paraphrase:

Some statements on gender and feminist geography sound more like a political programme of women`s rights rather than an outline of academic contributions. For example, Dixon and Jones (2006, 42) state that feminist geography should be mostly concerned with improving the lives of women. They understand gender and feminist geography as a critical science, which deals with different causes, dynamics and especially the spatiality of women`s oppression. It should be the duty of feminist geographers to outline strategies of resistance.

If you do not insert the author directly into your argument, but instead chose to paraphrase the argument, the source reference is mentioned at the end of the first sentence of your paraphrase.

An example:

As a critical science gender and feminist geography attends to improve the quality of women`s lives (cf. Dixon and Jones 2006, 42). Therefore Dixon and Jones point out that feminist geography is not only concerned with “[...] the sources, dynamics and spatiality of women`s oppression” but also outlines strategies of resistance” (ibidem / abbreviated “ibid.”).

As an alternative to the last source reference above, it is common practice, for example in the discipline of Physical Geography, to repeat the source, rather than to use “ibid.”. Using the example above, this would be (Dixon and Jones 2006, 42).

Quoting references in the list of references

The list of references at the end of the paper must include every source that was used while writing the paper. Regardless of whether these are Internet sources, books, journals or newspaper articles, they are all recorded in the bibliography, by author`s surname and listed in alphabetical order. Do not use bullet points. Every entry in the list of references concludes with a **full stop**.

Examples of quoting references in the list of references. For didactic purposes, we have organized the following examples in sections according to the types of reference (monograph, article, etc.). However, for the purposes of your list of reference, all entries should be **listed strictly in alphabetical order**.

Monographs

Hulme, Mike (2009): *Why We Disagree About Climate Change. Understanding Controversy, Inaction and opportunity*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Articles in journals

Glückler, Johannes (2013): Knowledge, networks and space: Connectivity and the problem of non-interactive learning. *Regional Studies* 47 (6): 880-894.

Collected volumes

Begossi, Alpina & Priscilla Lopes (Ed., 2011): *Current Trends in Human Ecology*. Cambridge: Cambridge Scholars Publishing.

Contributions to collected volumes

Kitchin, Rob (2006): Positivistic Geographies and Spatial Science. In: Aitken, Stuart & Gill Valentine (Ed.): *Approaches to Human Geography*. London: SAGE: 20-30.

Internet sources

Reynolds, Craig W. 1995: Boids. Background and Update. www.red3d.com/cwr/boids/ (retrieved 10.12.2005).

When quoting Internet sources, please note that you must include the name of the author, in order to use the source. Web pages without source CANNOT be included in the list of references.

Further reading about the meaning and purpose of citations and about creating academic work in general

Glasman-Deal, Hilary (2009): *Science Research Writing For Non-Native Speakers Of English*. London: Imperial College Press.

Kneale, Pauline (2011): *Study Skills for Geography, Earth & Environmental Science Students*. London: Hodder Education.

Pears, Richard & Graham Shields (2013): *Cite Them Right: The Essential Referencing Guide*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.