Referencing Guide: Vancouver

The **Swansea University Library Guide** to the Vancouver Style is based upon **Citing medicine: the NLM style guide for authors, editors & publishers**,[1] You may come across other guides for Vancouver, and see variations of the style in different journals. In particular, advice may vary as to how to handle secondary citations, and journals will differ as to whether numbers in the text should be inside or outside of punctuation marks. You are therefore advised to follow the guidance below, consult 'Citing Medicine' or contact the Library for advice.

Why reference?
Correct referencing is essential to avoid allegations of plagiarism and collusion, the penalties for which are severe. The correct referencing of work is important as it allows the examiners to check the sources on which you have based your discussions or arguments. Acknowledging sources is also essential to prevent any accusations of plagiarism or collusion - accurate referencing will allow the marker to differentiate your own thoughts, views and ideas from those of other authors. All of the references/sources used in your assessment should be listed in a section labelled REFERENCES.

What is a reference?
The British Standards Institution (1990). *Recommendations for Citing and Referencing Published Material* (BS5605). London: BSI. defines a reference as a set of data describing a document, sufficiently precise and detailed to identify it and enable to be located.

The Vancouver Style
The Vancouver style was developed at a meeting of editors of biomedical journals in 1978. It is a **numeric system**.

Each reference is given a number as it first appears in the text. **The number given becomes the unique identifier for that reference**, and so if it is cited again later in the text, it will still have the same number. The first reference cited will always be number 1 and numbers are allocated sequentially.

The number is either given in square brackets [1] or superscript[1]. College of Medicine students may also use round brackets (1).

Numbers are placed outside full-stops and commas, but inside colons and semicolons. Do not leave a space between the last word or punctuation mark that precedes the reference number.

Example:

> It has been estimated that there are over 20,000 medical journals, and over two million articles published each year[1]; and that a doctor practicing general medicine would need to read 19 articles every single day in a year just to keep abreast with the publications.[2]

.**Referencing in the text with Vancouver**

<u>Citing one work</u>

Recent research[1] indicates that the number of duplicate papers being published is increasing.

Or, using superscript:

Recent research[1] indicates that the number of duplicate papers being published is increasing.

<u>Citing more than one piece of work at the same time</u>

If you want to cite several pieces of work in the same sentence, you will need to include the citation number for each piece of work. A hyphen should be used to link numbers which are inclusive, and a comma used where numbers are not consecutive.

The following is an example where works 6, 7, 8, 9, 13 and 15 have been cited in the same place in the text.

Several studies[6-9,13,15] have examined the effect of congestion charging in urban areas.

<u>Citing the author's name in your text</u>

You can use the author's name in your text, but you must insert the citation number as well.

As emphasised by Watkins[2(p.1)] carers of diabetes sufferers "require perseverance and an understanding of humanity".

<u>Citing more than one author's name in your text</u>

If a work has more than one author and you want to cite author names in your text, use 'et al' after the first author.

Simons et al [3(p.4)] state that the principle of effective stress is "imperfectly known and understood by many practising engineers".

<u>Citing works by the same author written in the same year</u>

If you cite a new work which has the same author and was written in the same year as an earlier citation, each work will have a different number.

Communication of science in the media has increasingly come under focus, particularly where reporting of facts and research is inaccurate[4, 5].

REFERENCES

In the Reference List at the end of your assignment, you should list items in numerical order based upon the numbers allocated in the text. This should be labelled REFERENCES.

Ensure you use correct spacing and indenting, in line with any requirements set out in your College Handbook.

Example of how it *might* be laid out::

1.   Benton D. Diet, behaviour and cognition in children. In: Kilcast D, Angus F, editors. Developing children's food products. Cambridge: Woodhead; 2011. p. 62-81.

2.   Drake RL, Vogl W, Mitchell AWM, Gray H. Gray's anatomy for students [Internet]. 2nd edition. Philadelphia: Churchill Livingstone/Elsevier; 2010 [cited 2013 May 15]. Available from: http://elsevieruk.pdn.ipublishcentral.com.openathens-proxy.swan.ac.uk/reader/grays-anatomy-for-students.
3.   Grow GO. Teaching learners to be self-directed. Adult Education Quarterly. 1991;41(3): 125-49.

Book

Author(s).   (Surname, followed by initial(s)).
Title of book.
The edition of the book if it is not the first edition.
Place of Publication:
Publisher;
Year of Publication.

Note the required punctuation after each part.

Author name not given - Where no author/editor can be found, begin the reference with the title. Do *not* use Anonymous.

Multiple places of publication – Where more than one place is given, prefer the UK location if given; otherwise, use the first place mentioned.

Place of publication not given – If the place is not stated, but you can reasonably infer the location, enter the place in square brackets, e.g. [Cardiff]. Otherwise, use [place unknown]. Similarly, if the publisher cannot be found or inferred, use [publisher unknown].

Date of publication not given – If the date of copyright can be found, use that, and place a 'c' in front the date, e.g. c1955. If you are able to estimate or infer the date, enter the year followed by a '?' in square brackets, e.g. [1999?]. If no date can be found or estimated, use [date unknown].

Examples:

> Brookfield S. Understanding and facilitating adult learning: a comprehensive analysis of principles and effective practices. Buckingham: Open University Press; 1998.
>
> Drake RL, Vogl W, Mitchell AWM, Gray H. Gray's anatomy for students. 2nd ed. Philadelphia: Churchill Livingstone/Elsevier; 2010.
>
> Culpeper N. Culpeper's Astrological Judgment of Diseases. [London?]: [publisher unknown]; [date unknown].

Capitalization should be only used for the first word in the title, proper nouns, and acronyms.

Edited books

These are identified by putting 'editor.' after the name of the author(s).

Examples:

> Herwaldt LA, editor. Patient listening: a doctor's guide. Iowa City: University of Iowa Press; 2008.
>
> Croft PP, Blyth F, Windt D, editors. Chronic pain epidemiology: from aetiology to public health. Oxford: Oxford University Press; 2010.

Chapter/Paper in a Book

Author(s) of chapter/paper.   (Surname(s), followed by initials).
Title of chapter/paper.
In:
Author(s) or Editor(s) of overall book.
Title of book.
The edition of the book if it is not the first edition.
Place of Publication:
Publisher;
Year of Publication.
Page numbers preceded by p.

Examples:

> Neufeld VR, Barrows HS. Preparing medical students for lifelong learning. In: Knowles MS. and associates, editors. Andragogy in action: applying modern principles of adult learning. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass; 1985. p. 207-26.
>
> Benton D. Diet, behaviour and cognition in children. In: Kilcast D, Angus F, editors. Developing children's food products. Cambridge: Woodhead; 2011. p. 62-81.

E-book

Author(s).   (Surname, followed by initial(s)).
Title of book.
[Internet].
The edition of the book if it is not the first edition.
Place of Publication:
Publisher;
Year of Publication.
[cited year month day].
Available from:

Examples:

Merlin M, Gould D, Mahato B. Rising out-of-pocket spending for medical care: a growing strain on family budgets [Internet]. New York: Commonwealth Fund; 2006 [cited 2006 Oct 2]. Available from: http://www.cmwf.org/usr_doc/Merlis_risingoopspending_887.pdf

Drake RL, Vogl W, Mitchell AWM, Gray H. Gray's anatomy for students [Internet]. 2nd edition. Philadelphia: Churchill Livingstone/Elsevier; 2010 [cited 2013 May 15]. Available from: http://www.elsevier-etextbooks.com/product/grays-anatomy-for-students

Journal Article

Authors(s).   (Surname, followed by initial(s)).
Article Title.
The name of the journal.
Year of publication;
Volume number of journal:
(Issue number):
Inclusive page number(s) of the article.

Note: For College of Medicine assignments, **do not use abbreviated titles**. For example, "J Neurosci" should be written in full as "Journal of Neuroscience". You can check this in PubMed http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nlmcatalog/journals

Example:

Grow GO. Teaching learners to be self-directed. Adult Education Quarterly. 1991;41(3): 125-49.

Note: If there are up to six authors they should all be recorded, but if there are more than six then the first six authors are listed followed by 'et al'

Note: Page numbers should not be repeated except where followed by a letter. For example, 255-9 but 255A-259A.

<u>Journal Articles online</u>

Cite all the elements as for a print article, but in addition:

- Add: "**[Internet]**" after the title of the journal and before the full stop. For example, **Annals of Internal Medicine [Internet].**
- Add a **date of citation in square brackets following the date of publication.**
- Add: "**Available from:"** and provide a **URL or DOI**

Author(s).
Article title.
The name of the journal [Internet].
Year of publication [cited date];
Volume number
(Issue number):
Inclusive page number(s) of the article.   [If available. See advice below]
Available from:

Note: Cited dates must always follow the formula of "Year Month Day". Always **abbreviate the month to the first 3 letters.**

Note: If pagination is not given, count or estimate the number of pages and enter the number in square brackets preceded by about e.g. [6p.] or [about 3 p.]. If the online journal uses another system (e.g. article number) use that and follow with the number of pages in the pdf in square brackets.

Examples:

Wolinsky FD, Bentler SE, Hockenberry J, Jones MP, Weigel PA, Kaskie B, et al. A prospective cohort study of long-term cognitive changes in older Medicare beneficiaries. BMC Public Health [Internet]. 2011 [cited 2012 Jan 1];11(710): [13p.]. Available from: http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/11/710.

Jafri H, Alsheikh-Ali AA, Karas RH. Meta-analysis: statin therapy does not alter the association between low levels of high-density lipoprotein cholesterol and increased cardiovascular risk. . Annals of Internal Medicine [Internet]. 2010 [cited 2013 Jun 12];153(12): [1p]. Available from: http://annals.org/article.aspx?articleid=746580.

Rothwell PM. Factors that can affect the external validity of randomised controlled trials. PLoS Clinical Trials [Internet]. 2006 [cited 2012 Jun 21];1(1): e9 [5p.]. Available from: doi:10.1371/journal.pctr.0010009.

Note: Do **NOT** include URLs from databases where you found the reference. Only use the URL or DOI for the article being referenced. The URL or DOI should link you to the article's location and not to a record in PubMed or Web of Science.

Websites
Author.   (If one is identifiable; otherwise start with the Title of the Homepage).
Title
[Internet].
Place of publication:
Publisher;
Year of publication. *(i.e. the date first put on the Internet. Can be a range of dates.)*
[updated year month day; cited year month day]. *(where appropriate.)*
Available from:

Examples of homepages:

Swansea University [Internet]. Swansea: The University; [cited 2013 Jul 12].
Available from: http://www.swansea.ac.uk

BBC News[Internet]. London: BBC; [cited 2012 May 12]. Available from:
http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/

Individual Webpage within a website
Author. (If one is identifiable)
Title of homepage
[Internet].
Place of publication:
Publisher;
Year of publication.
[Type of material *if required* e.g. Chart/Video/Podcast etc.],
Title of web page;
[updated year month day; cited year month day]. (Only use updated/modified etc
where appropriate.)
Available from:

Note: Unless an author of the webpage can be clearly identified, begin with the **title
of the homepage.**
Note: You should try **not** to shorten the URL

Examples of an individual web page on a website:

Cancer Research UK [Internet]. [London]: Cancer Research UK; [date unknown].
Trials and research; [updated 25 Jul 2013; cited 2012 Jul 12]. Available from:
http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/cancer-help/trials/%20?ssSourceSiteId=home.

fruit & veggies more matters [Internet]. [place unknown]: Produce for Better Health
Foundation; c2008-2013. [Chart], Ways to get more; [cited 2013Jul 22]. Available
from: http://www.fruitsandveggiesmorematters.org/ways-to-get-more?iCat=22.

Example of a podcast:

Swansea University College of Medicine: Integrated Clinical Method [Internet].
[Swansea]: Swansea University College of Medicine; 2010. [Podcast], Thyroid gland
examination; [cited 2012 Jul 25]. Available from:
https://itunes.apple.com/gb/podcast/swansea-university-college/id264355722.

Example of a video on the internet:

Macmillan Cancer Support [Internet]. [London]: Macmillan Cancer Support; [2011?].
[Video], What is cancer? [updated 2011 Oct 1; cited 2013 Jan 7]. Available from:
http://www.macmillan.org.uk/Cancerinformation/Aboutcancer/Whatiscancer.aspx.

Government report (printed):

Government department.
Title.
Place of publication:
Publisher;
Year of publication.
Report number if available e.g. Report No.: Cm 6374.

Example:

Department of Health. Choosing health: making healthy choices easier. London:
Stationery Office; 2004. Report No.: Cm 6374.

Government report (online)

Government Department.
Title of paper/report.
Place of publication:
Name of Publisher;
Year of publication.
Report No.: (If available, e.g. "Report No.: Cm 6374".)
[cited Year Month Day].
Available from:

Example:

Department of Health. Choosing health: making healthier choices easier. London:
Stationery Office; 2004. Report No.: Cm 6374 [cited 2006 Jun 26]. Available from:
http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+/dh.gov.uk/en/publicationsandstatistics/pu
blications/publicationspolicyandguidance/dh_4094550

Cochrane Review

Author(s).   (Surname, followed by initial(s)).
Systematic review title.
Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Internet]
Year of publication [cited Year Month Day];
Issue number
Art. No.:
Available from:

Example:

Pal K, Eastwood SV, Michie S, Farmer AJ, Barnard ML, Peacock R, et al. Computer-based diabetes self-management interventions for adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Internet]. 2013 [cited 2013 Jul 12]; Issue 3. Art. No.: CD008776. Available from:
DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD008776.pub2.10.1002/14651858.CD008776.pub2.

Charts taken from an online journal article

Author(s).
Article title.
The name of the journal [Internet].
Year of publication [cited date];
Volume number
(Issue number):
Inclusive page number(s) of the article.
Title of the chart/table/figure;
Page number for the chart/table/figure.
Available from:

Example:

Hex N, Bartlett C, Wright D, Taylor M, Varley D. Estimating the current and future costs of Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes in the UK, including direct health costs and indirect societal and productivity costs. Diabetic Medicine [Internet]. 2012 [cited 2013 Jul 22]; 29:855–62. Table 1, Estimated UK prevalence of diabetes 2010 ∕ 2011 and 2035 ∕ 2036; p.858. Available from: http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1464-5491.2012.03698.x/pdf

Note: If there is no issue number, place the colon after the volume number as in the example below.

Thesis

Author.
Title
[Thesis (Ph D)]. *or* [Thesis (M Sc)].
Place of publication:
Publisher;
Date of publication.

Example:

Garner JLS. Peer feedback on professional behaviours in the undergraduate medical curriculum: a case study of tutor and student views at the University of Liverpool [Thesis (PhD)]. Liverpool: University of Liverpool; 2012.

Thesis available online

Author.
Title
[Thesis (Ph D)]. or [Thesis (M Sc)].
Place of publication:
Publisher;
Date of publication
[cited Year Month Day].
Available from:

Example:

Delf P. A research project to design, implement and assess the effectiveness of a sole eLearning module to prepare non-medical healthcare practitioners to report nuclear medicine bone scans [Thesis (Ph D)]. Portsmouth: University of Portsmouth; 2012 [cited 2013 Jul 25]. Available from: http://eprints.port.ac.uk/10600/

Conference Proceedings

Editor(s).   (Surname, followed by initial(s)).
Conference Name/Title;
Date of conference;
Conference Location.
Place of publication:
Publisher;
Date of publication.

Example:

Dostrovsky JO, Carr DB, Koltzenburg M, editors. Proceedings of the 10th World Congress on pain; 2002 Aug 17-22; San Diego, CA. Seattle: IASP Press; c2003.

General notes on Vancouver & referencing

The Vancouver system lists the cited references at the end of the text and the references are listed numerically.

Multiple authors do not always have to be listed. If there are up to six authors they should all be recorded, but if there are more than six then the first six authors may be listed followed by 'et al'.

Every attempt must be used to correctly identify the author, which may be a corporate body such as the NHS Executive, Department of Health, Welsh Office or National Assembly. Frequently publications from these corporate bodies contain a forward - the person who signs this is not the author of the document.

Anonymous articles and editorials in journals. Where there is no author, begin the reference with the title. **Do not use anonymous**. If you want, you can enter [editorial] immediately after the title as a helpful note.

Sometimes the **year of publication** may not be included, government departments are poor at including the date on their publications. **If no date is recorded then the reference needs to state [date unknown].**

The **PubMed database includes the standard journal abbreviations which are used in the Vancouver system of referencing, the full title of journals is preferred rather than the use of abbreviations.** Many students are not familiar with the standard journal abbreviations and use their own form of abbreviations, which can become confusing for the markers.

Whenever you read anything (book or article) it is worth noting down all the details, a summary of the key points, and direct quotes that may be of use. Noting these on a card is helpful and it is also useful to make a note of where you obtained the book or article from, so that you can easily re-locate it if you need to refer back to the original text again.

There are referencing software packages available which follow similar principles to the card system - **EndNote** is available on University PCs or via the internet as **EndNote Basic (previously EndNote Web)** - details via BlackBoard. If you are using **EndNote,** then select the **VANCOUVER Swansea** style to format your references.

Common mistakes when referencing

Paraphrasing - Rewriting another person's work does not make it your own. You still have to include the source of work. **Work which is largely paraphrased will be considered plagiarism, even if you include the source**. Write something original!

Secondary Citations - All efforts must be taken to locate and read the **original** text (book or article) rather than make reference to the work of one author cited by another. However, there may be some instances when you are not able to obtain and read the original source. In this case, **you must make it clear when writing your full references that you are not making reference to the original source.**

In your Reference List, you should **either** only cite the work that you have read at first hand **or** provide all the details of the original source and then add 'Cited in:' and provide all the detail of the text where you obtained the information from. You must not reference the item as though you had read it when in fact you have only read about it.

One of the reasons why secondary citations is discouraged is that you need to provide accurate references in a consistent way and mistakes can occur in books and articles that are published, even to the extent that the reference can mislead the reader

Example

In text*:*
Neville[1(p.17)] cites the CBI report from 2006, in which it was claimed that 23% of employers were dissatisfied with the literacy skills of graduates.

References
1. Neville C. The complete guide to referencing and avoiding plagiarism. Maidenhead: Open University Press; 2007.

or

References
Working on the three Rs: employers' priorities for functional skills in maths and English. London: CBI; 2006. Cited in: Neville C. The complete guide to referencing and avoiding plagiarism. Maidenhead: Open University Press; 2007.

Epubs or Online first articles

These articles are published online before appearing in print or being given a volume and issue number. There is also the possibility that they may be modified before final publication. It is therefore useful to acknowledge their status by putting **Epub** before the date of publication, which for this should include the full date (year, month, day). Providing a DOI will also help the reader trace the article.

Example:

Lotz M, Martel-Pelletier J, Christiansen C, Brandi M-L, Bruyère O, Chapurlat R, et al. Value of biomarkers in osteoarthritis: current status and perspectives. Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases [Internet]. Epub 2013 Jul 29 [cited 2013 Jul 30]. Available from: doi:10.1136/annrheumdis-2013-203726

When citing **Epubs** and **Online first** articles after they have appeared in print and been allocated volume and issue numbers, you need to ensure that you are referencing the version of the article you read. If you want, you can add a note at the end of the reference to indicate that it was an **Epub**.

Example:

Lillegraven S, Kristiansen IS, Kvien TK. Comparison of utility measures and their relationship with other health status measures in 1041 patients with rheumatoid arthritis. Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases. 2010 [cited 2013 Jul 29];69(10):1762-7. Available from: doi:10.1136/ard.2009.124099 Published Online First: 5 February 2002.

Further Information on the Vancouver style

On Blackboard

Log in to your subject Library Support module to find more information on referencing and reference management software.

On the web

Patrias K, author, Wendling D, editor. Citing Medicine: The NLM Style Guide for Authors, Editors, and Publishers [Internet]. Bethesda (MD): National Library of Medicine (US); 2007- [cited 2013 Jul 22]. Available from: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK7256/.

REFERENCES

Patrias K, author, Wendling D, editor. Citing Medicine: The NLM Style Guide for Authors, Editors, and Publishers [Internet]. Bethesda (MD): National Library of Medicine (US); 2007- [cited 2013 Jul 22]. Available from: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK7256/.