



# Literature References



## 1) Function of Literature References

References allow readers to find the works used in a scientific paper. References thus ensure the fulfillment of fundamental scientific requirements: they make the fundamentals of a scientific investigation and individual argumentation steps comprehensible and verifiable. Scientific community is inconceivable without the correct citation of sources and literature.

## 2) Basic Principles of Literature References

In order to ensure the findability of sources and literature in the sense of their purpose, literature references must fulfill two basic principles: consistency and traceability.

The principle of consistency refers to the requirement that all data in scientific work must be prepared according to a common pattern – that is, the same types of data must be provided for each work in the same order.

The principle of traceability, on the other hand, states that each source and literature citation must contain sufficient information to find the corresponding work.

Given the search capabilities available and the record used in databases and other search tools, the following informationen should be provided in each specification:

- Author or editor
- Title, subtitle
- Date of publication
- Place of publication
- For dependent publications: published in
- For works only available online: URL/DOI, date of last access/call [see also: "Referencing Electronic Documents"]

### NOTE

Many subjects require certain information and a certain order in their citation guidelines. If in doubt, ask your supervisor which specifications apply to your work!





### 3) Examples for Literature References

In the following, two citation styles are presented as examples. A **citation style** is a **particular form of literature citation** that has become established in a subject, a publication organ (scientific series; scientific journal) or even just for a professorial chair.

The examples are given both as **short titles** and as **long titles** – while the short title is intended for reference in the actual text of your paper, long titles are usually only used in the bibliography and list of works cited following the paper.

#### Style 1: MLA – Modern Language Association

Source: *MLA Handbook*. 8th ed., The Modern Language Association of America, 2016.

##### Monography:

Schmidt, Susanne. *Falsch-Angaben: Eine Theorie fehlerhafter Literaturnachweise*. Buxtehude, 2012. Print.

##### Journal article:

Müller, Erwin, and Kracher, Cornelia. "Zitationsbeispiele entwickeln: Grundlagen und Schwierigkeiten." *Vierteljahresblätter für Beispielentwicklung*, vol. 12, 2013, pp. 25–38.

##### Work in an anthology:

Schulz, Gabriele. "Auf die Familie zurückgeworfen: Gekürzte AutorInnen-Vornamen in der modernen Nachweiskultur." *Lang oder Kurz? Studien zu Strategien der Erstnennung von Sekundärliteratur in den Geisteswissenschaften*, edited by Heinz I. Maier, Frankfurt am Main, 1999, pp. 5–10.

##### Online document (without Persistent Identifier):

Herrmann, Günther. „Würdelose Texte? Überlegungen zu einer neuen Ethik der Zitationswürdigkeit.“ *Günthers Schreibblockade*, 24. Apr. 2011, <http://guenthereschreibblockade.de/wuerdelosetexte>. Accessed 12 Dec. 2012.

→ For online documents for which a persistent identifier has been assigned, this is specified instead of the URL (in this case, the specification of the last retrieval is also omitted). For more information, see the handout „Referencing Electronic Documents“

#### Short title

for the four types of sources mentioned above:

(author page number) → (Schmidt 28)

Long title



## Style 2: Citavi Basic Style

Long title

### Monography:

Schmidt, Susanne (2012): Falsch-Angaben. Eine Theorie fehlerhafter Literaturnachweise. Buxtehude: CopyPasteVerlag.

### Journal article:

Müller, Erwin; Kracher, Cornelia (2013): Zitationsbeispiele entwickeln. Grundlagen und Schwierigkeiten. In: *Vierteljahresblätter für Beispielentwicklung* 12, p. 25–38.

### Work in an anthology:

Schulz, Gabriele (1999): Auf die Familie zurückgeworfen. Gekürzte AutorInnen-Vornamen in der modernen Nachweiskultur. In: Heinz Immanuel Maier (ed.): Lang oder Kurz? Studien zu Strategien der Erstnennung von Sekundärliteratur in den Geisteswissenschaften. Frankfurt am Main: Olaf Kurz Verlag, p. 5–10.

### Online document:

Herrmann, Günther (2011): Würdelose Texte? Überlegungen zu einer neuen Ethik der Zitationswürdigkeit. Available online at <http://guenthersshreibblogkade.de/wuerdelosetexte>, zuletzt geprüft am 12.12.2012.

→ For online documents for which a persistent identifier has been assigned, this is specified instead of the URL (in this case, the specification of the last retrieval is also omitted). For more information, see the handout „Referencing Electronic Documents“

## Short title

for the four types of sources mentioned above:

(author date of publication, page number) → (Schmidt 2012, p. 28)

### NOTE

Only four source types have been presented here as examples. Details on other source types (e.g., audio, video, encyclopedia articles, etc.) as well as other specifics, such as dealing with more than two authors, unknown authors, etc., can be found in the MLA Handbook and Citavi.

