L-Università
ta' Malta

IEEE
Referencing Style

Guidelines

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1. Referencing

Referencing is the process of providing detailed information on all sources consulted to compile an article, book chapter, essay or dissertation both within the text (in-text citations) and at the end of your work (reference list or bibliography). This will allow readers to easily locate the original sources and consult them.

1.1   Why should I reference?

Referencing is important as it shows the reader that you have researched the subject widely and adds weight to your arguments by supporting them with relevant literature.

It also separates your ideas/results from someone else's findings by giving credit to the authors of the cited works. Referencing shows the credibility and quality of resources used and helps you avoid plagiarism.

1.2   What should I reference?

You should reference all sources that you cited in your text (reference list) as well as sources used to prepare the writing (bibliography).

1.3   What is plagiarism?

Plagiarism is a term used when an author either purposely or unintentionally presents someone else's work as if it is his/her own work. Therefore, using other people's ideas/works without citing the sources is considered as plagiarism.

Always remember that if you are quoting, paraphrasing or summarising someone else's work, you always need to acknowledge the source.

Be careful of self-plagiarism. Using your previously submitted work without acknowledging it is also considered as a form of plagiarism.

Plagiarism is treated very seriously and results in disciplinary action.

1.4   What is a Reference Management Software?

A reference management software allows you to collect, store, organise, add notes, link (to full-text, web pages and documents), cite, and create bibliographies in your preferred reference style.

2. Examples of references

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) referencing style is a numeric style where you need to allocate a number to a source. If a source is cited more than once, the same number is assigned to it.

The reference list is organised in the same numerical order as cited within the text. To numerate the reference, use Arabic numerals (1, 2, 3, 4…). This style is commonly used in information technology, engineering and computer science.

2.1   In-text citations

When citing your sources in-text, use a number written in square brackets [1].

2.1.1   One source

There is nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so [1].

If the citation is placed at the end of the sentence or in the line of text, place it before the punctuation marks.

Once the source was assigned a number, continue using the same number when citing that source again in your paper.

When referencing a direct quote from the source, in addition to the number, a page number is also included in brackets.

Single page: [5, p.12]
Range of pages: [5, pp. 12–14]

2.1.2   Multiple sources

If you wish to cite more than one work in the same sentence, you need to provide the citation number for each publication. Place each citation in its own bracket.

To link consecutive numbers use dash. In case of non-consecutive numbers, separate them with a comma.

Several studies [1]–[4], [8] indicated that tourism is the backbone of the Maltese economy.

2.2 Final list of references/bibliography

2.2.1 One Author

In IEEE style, the references list should be arranged in the order that the works were cited. The corresponding number used within the in-text citation should be placed in square brackets and placed at the beginning of each reference.

[1] J. E. Herring, *Improving Students' Web use and Information Literacy : A Guide for Teachers and Teacher Librarians.* London: Facet, 2011.

2.2.2 Two or more authors

When citing a work by two to six authors include all names.

If there are two or more authors, write "and" between the authors' names or before the last name:

[1] H. Blanchett, J. Webb and C. Powis, *A Guide to Teaching Information Literacy : 101 Practical Tips.* London: Facet Publishing, 2012.

If there are more than six authors, write "*et al*" after the first author:

[1] B. Jacquemin *et al*, "Impact of geocoding methods on associations between long-term exposure to urban air pollution and lung function," *Environ. Health Perspect.,* vol. 121, *(9),* p. 1054, 2013.

2.2.3 Group/corporate author

In case of group authors like government agencies, organisations, associations and corporations, provide group name instead of the author.

2.2.4 Unknown author

In case the author is unidentified, begin the reference with the title of the publication.

2.2.5 Unknown date

If there is no date available, write "n.d."

[1] H. Blanchett, J. Webb and C. Powis, *A Guide to Teaching Information Literacy : 101 Practical Tips.* London: Facet Publishing, n.d.

2.2.6 Multiple works by the same author

In case you are citing several publications written by the same author, even if the works were published in the same year, each citation needs to have its own reference number.

2.2.7 Books

[ ] INITIAL(S). Surname, *Title* (written in italics), ed. if later than 1st edition. City of publisher, U.S. State if necessary, Country: Publisher, year.

[1] V. Evans, J. Dooley and J. Kern, *Mechanical Engineering.* Newbury: Express Publishing, 2014.

2.2.8 Chapter in a book

[ ] INITIAL(S). Surname, "Chapter title," in *Book title (written in italics),* ed. if later than 1st edition, Editor's INITIAL(S). Surname, Ed(s). City of publisher, U.S. State if necessary, Country: Publisher, year, pp. numbers.

[1] J. Smith, "Introduction to mechanical engineering," in *Springer Handbook of Mechanical Engineering*, 2nd ed., K. Grote, Ed. New York, NY: Springer, 2009, pp. 16-38.

2.2.9 Journal articles

The titles of journals must be abbreviated according to the IEEE Transactions, Journals, and Letters Abbreviations and IEEE Magazines Abbreviations: http://ieeeauthorcenter.ieee.org/wp-content/uploads/IEEE_Style_Manual.pdf

[ ] INITIAL(S). Surname, "Article title," *Abbrev. of Journal Title,* vol. , no. , pp. , Month. Year.

[1] S. Brown, "2016 Index IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics" *IEEE Trans. Vis. Comput. Graphics,* vol. 23, *(2),* pp. 1-28, Feb, 2017.

In case of electronic articles, provide DOI number or URL after the year.

URL:

[ ] INITIAL(S). Surname, "Article title," *Abbrev. of Journal Title,* vol. , no. , pp. , Month. Year. Available: http://www...

DOI:

[ ] INITIAL(S). Surname, "Article title," *Abbrev. of Journal Title,* vol. , no. , pp. , Month. Year. DOI: …

Do not place a full stop at the end of the URL or the DOI.

If the month of publication is unknown, include the year only.

2.2.10 Webpage

When citing a website, make sure to include recently accessed date at the end of each reference: [Accessed April 9, 2019].

When entering a website manually in RefWorks, use Generic reference type indicating that this is an electronic source.

[ ] INITIAL(S). Surname, "Title of web page," *Title of Website*, Month. Day, Year. Available: http://www... . [Accessed Month Day, Year].

[1] World Health Organization, "Nipah virus," *World Health Organization,* May 30, 2018. Available: https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/nipah-virus. [Accessed April 9, 2019].

2.2.11 Computer programs

If you cannot find the author of the computer program, reference it as a work with no author.

[ ] INITIAL(S). Surname, Name of Software Version. [Medium]. City of publisher, U.S. State if necessary, Country: Publisher, year.

Thomson ISI, Endnote 7. [CD-ROM]. Berkeley, CA: ISI ResearchSoft, 2006.

2.2.12 Non-text material

If there is no author, begin with the title. If there is no date, use n.d.

Images/ Photographs:

[ ] INITIAL(S). Surname, "Title of the work", [Material type] at or in (where found, for example in a book or museum) Title, Edition. City of publisher, U.S. State if necessary, Country: Publisher, year, page number.

Image found online:

[ ] INITIAL(S). Surname, Description or title of image [Online image], year. Available: http://www... . [Accessed Month Day, Year].

2.2.13 Audio and video resources

Audio-visual material includes motion pictures and audio or television broadcast.

Motion picture:

[ ] *Title of film*. Directed by INITIAL(S). Surname. City of Publication, State, Country: Publisher, Year. [Medium e.g. DVD]

[29] *The Martian*. Directed by R. Scott. Century City, CA, USA: Twentieth Century Fox, 2015. [DVD].

Online videos:

[ ] INITIAL(S). Surname and/or [Screen name], *Video title,* Abbrev. Month. Day, Year. [Video]. Available: http://www... . [Accessed Month Day, Year].

[3] B.N. O'Brien, *Vivo 11 training - full video*, May 5, 2017. [Video]. Available: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eNo-Qxsp-mk. [Accessed April 9, 2019].

2.2.14 Unpublished material

Lecture notes:

[ ] INITIAL(S). Surname, Course/Subject code. Class Lecture, Topic: "Topic of a lecture." Institution, City, U.S. State if necessary, Country, Month Day, Year.

[1] S. Bhanndahar. ECE 4321. Class Lecture, Topic: "Bluetooth can't help you." School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA, Jan. 9, 2008.

2.2.15 Technical reports

[ ] INITIAL(S). Surname, "Report/paper title," Abbrev. of name of Coordinating Institution, City, U.S. State if necessary, Country, Report/paper number. Year.

In case of online report, provide DOI number or URL after the year.

[ ] INITIAL(S). Surname, "Report/paper title," Abbrev. of name of Coordinating Institution, City, U.S. State if necessary, Country, Report/paper number. Year. Available: http://www...

2.2.16 Patents

[ ] INITIAL(S). Surname, "Title of patent," Country Patent Number, Month. Day, Year.

In case of online patent, provide DOI number or URL after the year.

2.2.17 Papers Published in Conference Proceedings

[ ] INITIAL(S). Surname, "Title of paper," in *Name of Conference.,* Location of Conference. (if given), year (if not given in conference name), page numbers.

[1] M. K. Shoja, H. Taheri and S. Vakilinia, "Preventing black hole attack in AODV through use of hash chain," in *19th Iranian Conference on Electrical Engineering,* Tehran, Iran, 2011, pp. 20-26.

2.2.18 Secondary referencing

Always try to cite the primary (original) source of information. Secondary referencing should be avoided.

3. Managing your references

RefWorks

RefWorks is a software that will help you compile your bibliography with just a click of a button!

You may attend a *RefWorks* workshop to learn how to:

- add references manually into your personal *RefWorks* account
- export references from online sources such as online databases that the Library subscribes to and Google Scholar
- save references in different folders according to your assignments and research
- create a bibliography in your preferred reference style
- use *Write-n-Cite* - a tool that will help you insert in-text citations and footnotes in your assignments, dissertations, long essays, projects or articles

4. Further help

For further help you can contact us by sending an email at library@um.edu.mt or by phone on 2340 2541.

5. Useful sources

[1] H. Fulton, "Library guides: Citing and referencing: IEEE," *Monash University Library,* 2019.
Available: https://guides.lib.monash.edu/citing-referencing/ieee. [Accessed April 11, 2019].

[2] E. Cross, "LibGuides: IEEE Referencing Guide," *De Montfort University,* 2019. Available:
//libguides.library.dmu.ac.uk/ieeeguide/welcome. [Accessed April 11, 2019].

[3] University of Sheffield, "Electronic and Electrical Engineering - Subject-specific
support," *The University of Sheffield Library,* 2019.
Available: http://librarydevelopment.group.shef.ac.uk/referencing/ieee.html. [Accessed
April 11, 2019].