

ACM Style Guide – Citing Books

APSU Writing Center Handout

What is an in-text citation?

An in-text citation is a short reference within your writing that shows where your information came from. ACM uses numbered citations in square brackets.

- Do NOT include years in in-text citations.
- Do NOT use author-date style (like APA or ASA)

Examples:

Single source → [1] Multiple sources → [1, 2]

Example Sentences:

This approach has been widely adopted in recent systems [2].

Several studies have shown improvements in performance [3, 4].

What is a Reference Page?

A reference page is a list at the end of your paper that gives full details about all the sources you cited. List references in the order they appear in your paper.

Do NOT alphabetize. Do NOT use hanging indents in ACM format unless stated by your professor. ACM papers are typically formatted using an official template, so students should follow the template instead of formatting citations on their own.

Example (Book Chapter):

BLESS, H. 2000. The Interplay of Affect and Cognition. In *Feeling and Thinking: The Role of Affect in Social Cognition*. Cambridge, MA: Cambridge University Press, 201–222.

ACM (Computing Machinery) Style - Citing a Book

In-text Citation Format: [number]

Use the number corresponding to the reference in your reference list.

Sentence with In-Text Citation Example 1:

Policy-based networking provides a structured framework for managing complex networks [1].

Sentence with In-Text Citation Example 2:

Security policies can be automatically enforced through policy-based systems [2].

Reference Format:

[number] Author(s). Year. *Title* (Edition). Publisher, City, State/Country.

Reference Examples:

[1] David Kosiur. 2001. *Understanding Policy-Based Networking* (2nd. ed.). Wiley, New York, NY.

[2] Larry L. Peterson and Bruce S. Davie. 2011. *Computer Networks: A Systems Approach* (5th ed.). Morgan Kaufmann, Burlington, MA.

ACM (Computing Machinery) Style - Citing a Anthology or Compilation

An **anthology** or **compilation** is a book or collection that gathers works from multiple authors, often organized around a specific theme or topic, usually edited by one or more editors.

In-text Citation Format: [number]

Use the number corresponding to the reference in your reference list.

Sentence with In-Text Citation Example 1:

The essays in this compilation explore the evolution of modern computing theory [1].

Sentence with In-Text Citation Example 2:

Contributions from multiple authors highlight diverse approaches to software design [2].

Reference Format:

[number] Editor(s) (Ed.). Year. *Title* (Edition). Series Name, Vol. Number. Publisher, City, State/Country. DOI

Reference Examples:

[1] David B. Benson (Ed.). 2007. *Advances in Software Engineering* (1st ed.). Lecture Notes in Computer Science, Vol. 4567. Springer, Berlin, Germany. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-540-09237-4>

[2] Jane Smith and Robert Brown (Eds.). 2010. *Advances in Computer Science Anthology* (2nd ed.). Modern Computing Series, Vol. 4. Springer, New York, NY. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4419-1111-1>

ACM (Computing Machinery) Style - Citing a Chapter in an Edited Book

A chapter in an edited book is a section within a book edited by others. Each chapter is cited individually, giving credit to the chapter authors as well as noting the editors of the book.

In-text Citation Format: [number]

Use the number corresponding to the reference in your reference list.

Sentence with In-Text Citation Example 1:

Re-imagining disciplinary learning requires acknowledging multiple ways of knowing [1].

Sentence with In-Text Citation Example 2:

The chapter highlights how cultural contexts shape learning experiences [2].

Reference Format:

[number] Chapter Author(s). Year. Chapter Title. In *Book Title*. Editor(s) (Ed(s.)). Publisher, City, State/Country, Pages.

Reference Examples:

[1] Beth Warren, Shirin Vossoughi, Ann S. Rosebery, Megan Bang, and Edd V. Taylor. 2020. Multiple ways of knowing*: Re-imagining disciplinary learning. In *Handbook of the Cultural Foundations of Learning*. Na'ilah Suad Nasir, Carol D. Lee, Roy Pea, and Maxine McKinney de Royston (Eds.), Routledge, 277–294.

[2] Jennifer L. Goode and Yasmin Kafai. 2018. Learning through making in informal spaces. In *Handbook of the Cultural Foundations of Learning*, Na'ilah Suad Nasir, Carol D. Lee, Roy Pea, and Maxine McKinney de Royston (Eds.). Routledge, New York, NY, 295–312.

References

Association for Computing Machinery. (2023, July 11). *Reference formatting*. ACM.

<https://www.acm.org/publications/authors/reference-formatting>

Association for Computing Machinery. (2021). *CHI 2021 example papers*. CHI 2021.

<https://chi2021.acm.org/for-authors/presenting/papers/example-papers>