

ACM Style Guide

APSU Writing Center Handout

Formatting

Students are advised to use the official ACM template (Word or LaTeX), which formats everything automatically.

ACM papers are typically single-spaced and in a two-column layout

Do not manually adjust font, spacing, or margins

ACM Style Paper Order

Title

Author(s) (Name(s), Affiliation(s), Email(s))

Abstract

Keywords (use commas to separate terms)

Main Body (Introduction, Related Work, Methods, Results, and Discussion)

Acknowledgments (optional)

References

Example:

Submission Template for ACM Papers

Title of the paper

Subtitle (if applicable)

First Author's Name

Affiliation, Institution Name, email@example.com

ACM In-text Citation Style

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)

Example: Single source → [1]

Example: Multiple sources → [1, 2]

Example: As demonstrated by Burando et al. [1], this method improves accuracy.

References Section

List references in the order they appear in the paper.

Do NOT alphabetize.

Do NOT use hanging indents in ACM format unless stated by your professor.

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 Style - Citing a Paginated Article in a Journal

In-Text Citation Format: [number]

Sentence with In-Text Citation Example: Abril and Plant discuss this dilemma in detail [1].

Reference Format: [#] Author(s). Year. Title. *Journal Name* Volume, Issue (Month Year), Pages. DOI

Reference Example:

[1] Patricia S. Abril and Robert Plant. 2007. The patent holder's dilemma: Buy, sell, or troll? Commun. ACM 50, 1 (Jan. 2007), 36–44. <https://doi.org/10.1145/1188913.1188915>

ACM Style - Citing a Book

In-Text Citation Format: [number]

Sentence with In-Text Citation Example: Policy-based networking is widely discussed [1].

Reference Format: [#] Author(s). Year. *Title* (Edition). Publisher, City.

Reference Example:

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

ACM Style - Citing a Video

In-Text Citation Format: [number]

Sentence with In-Text Citation Example: The animation techniques are demonstrated clearly in prior work [1].

Reference Format: [#] Author(s). Year. Title. Medium. In *Proceedings/Collection Title* (Date). Publisher, Location, Page(s). DOI

Reference Example:

[1] Dave Novak. 2003. Solder man. Video. In *ACM SIGGRAPH 2003 Video Review on Animation theater Program: Part I - Vol. 145* (July 27-27, 2003). ACM Press, New York, NY, 4.
<https://doi.org/99.9999/woot07-S422>

ACM Style - Citing a Thesis

In-Text Citation Format: [number]

Sentence with In-Text Citation Example: Motion control optimization has been extensively studied [1].

Reference Format: [#] Author. Year. *Title*. Type of thesis. Institution, Location.

Reference Example:

[1] David A. Anisi. 2003. *Optimal Motion Control of a Ground Vehicle*. Master's thesis. Royal Institute of Technology (KTH), Stockholm, Sweden.

ACM Style - Citing a Dissertation

In-Text Citation Format: [number]

Sentence with In-Text Citation Example: Clarkson's work on computational geometry laid the foundation for later algorithms [1].

Reference Format: [#] Author. Year. *Title (Optional Series/Area)*. Ph.D. Dissertation. Institution, Location. Optional Database/Order Number.

Reference Example:

[1] Kenneth L. Clarkson. 1985. *Algorithms for Closest-Point Problems (Computational Geometry)*. Ph.D. Dissertation. Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA. UMI Order Number: AAT 8506171.

ACM Style - Citing a Website

In-Text Citation Format: [number]

Sentence with In-Text Citation Example: The ACM website provides resources for computing professionals [2].

Reference Format: [#] Author or Organization. Year (or “n.d.” if no date). *Title of Webpage or Site*. Retrieved from URL

Reference Example:

[[2] ACM. *Association for Computing Machinery: Advancing Computing as a Science & Profession*. Retrieved from <http://www.acm.org/>.

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>