

Chicago Style 18th Guide – Citing Social Media

APSU Writing Center Handout

What is a Footnote?

A footnote appears at the bottom of the page and provides source information or extra details.

A **superscript number** in the text points to the note.

The matching number at the bottom lists the full source (or a shortened version if already cited).

Footnotes let readers see sources without interrupting the text flow.

Shortened footnotes are used for subsequent references to the same source.

- If your first citation was footnote 1, the next citation (even if shortened) might be footnote 2, 3, etc., depending on other sources in between.

How to Create a Footnote in Microsoft Word

Place cursor where superscript appears at the end of the sentence

References → Insert Footnote → type your note.

Sentence Example:

Critics argue that contemporary novels explore identity through movement across cultures. ¹

Footnote:

1. Zadie Smith, *Swing Time* (New York: Penguin Press, 2016), 315–16.

What is a Bibliography Page?

A bibliography page is a separate page at the end of your paper that lists all sources cited.

- Entries are **alphabetized by author's last name**.
- No superscript numbers are used.

Example: Smith, Zadie. *Swing Time*. New York: Penguin Press, 2016.

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Comments are cited with the commenter's name, date, and a reference to the original post.

Full Footnote Format: Username (or Author Name), "First 280 characters of post," Platform, Month Day, Year, URL.

Sentence with Footnote Example: The use of singular "they" has been accepted in English for decades.¹

Footnote

1. Chicago Manual of Style, "Is the world ready for singular they? We thought so back in 1993," Facebook, April 17, 2015, <https://www.facebook.com/ChicagoManual/posts/10152906193679151>.

Shortened Footnote Format: Username or Author Name, "First few words of post."

Example:

2. Chicago Manual of Style, "Is the world ready."

Bibliography Format: Author or Organization. "First 280 characters of post." Platform, Month Day, Year. URL.

Example:

Chicago Manual of Style. "Is the world ready for singular they? We thought so back in 1993."
Facebook, April 17, 2015. <https://www.facebook.com/ChicagoManual/posts/10152906193679151>

Chicago Style 18th Edition - Video or Lecture

For moderated or posted lectures, include the moderator, the posting date, and the platform.

Full Footnote Format: First Name Last Name, “Title of Video,” Platform or Event, Location, Month Year, duration (min., sec.), URL.

Sentence with Footnote Example: Green hydrogen has the potential to replace fossil fuels in many industries.¹

Footnote

1. Vaitea Cowan, “How Green Hydrogen Could End the Fossil Fuel Era,” TED Talk, Vancouver, BC, April 2022, 9 min., 15 sec., https://www.ted.com/talks/vaitea_cowan_how_green_hydrogen_could_end_the_fossil_fuel_era.

Shortened Footnote Format: Last Name, “Shortened Title,” time reference if applicable.

Example:

2. Cowan, “Green Hydrogen,” at 6:09–17.

Bibliography Format: Last Name, First Name. “Title of Video.” Platform or Event, Location, Month Year. Video, duration (min., sec.). URL.

Example:

Cowan, Vaitea. “How Green Hydrogen Could End the Fossil Fuel Era.” TED Talk, Vancouver, BC, April 2022. Video, 9 min., 15 sec. https://www.ted.com/talks/vaitea_cowan_how_green_hydrogen_could_end_the_fossil_fuel_era.

Bibliography

“General Format,” *The Purdue OWL*. <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/717/02/>.

The Chicago Manual of Style. "Notes and Bibliography: Sample Citations." 2024.

https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide/citation-guide-1.html