Vancouver Referencing

Vancouver is a numerical referencing system and is commonly used in Medicine and the Sciences.

Note: These are general guidelines on using the Vancouver referencing style based on the NL M Style Guide. Always refer to the referencing guidelines provided by your department in the first instance.

Reference a book using Vancouver

Required elements

Author/Editor. Title. Edition if applicable. Secondary Authors/Editors if applicable. Place of Publication: Publisher; Date of publication. (Series if applicable)

e.g.


Format of authors/editors:

- List the authors names in the order that they appear in the text
- Use initials for first and middle names of the authors, up to a maximum of two initials
- Do not use periods/stops between initials. e.g. JB not J.B.
- Separate names of authors using a comma and a space. e.g. Woods A, Frazier BR, Jones C
- Use et al. for the seventh and subsequent authors

Format of secondary authors/editors:

- Secondary authors can include series editors, translators and illustrators.
- List the secondary authors in the same surname/initial format as the main authors.
- List the secondary authors in the order that they appear in the text
- List the role of the secondary authors at the end of each group e.g. Patten M, Morgan NM, editors; Fielding LJ, illustrator.

Format of series:

- A book may be one volume in a series.
- List the details of the series in brackets at the end of the reference after the date of publication.
- List the name of the series first, then a semicolon, then the Volume or issue number of that book in the series.

Examples:

- Book with a single author, first edition or no edition given:

- Book with a single author, multiple editions:

- Book with multiple authors:

- Edited book with a single editor:

- Edited book with multiple editors in a series:
• Book with secondary authors/editors:


In the text

Cite your sources by using a number in brackets in the text which links with the relevant reference in the reference list at the end of the document:

• In a 2008 study Neelam (1) ...
• Glaser argued ...(2)

Any subsequent citation of the same source should use the same reference number:

• Neelam and colleagues found (1)...

Page numbers can be added to the citation to distinguish between references to the same source: (2: 45).

In the reference list

The entries in the reference list or bibliography should be arranged in numerical order relating to the citation in the text:


Reference an ebook using Vancouver

Required elements

Author/Editor. Title [Medium]. Edition if applicable. Secondary Authors /Editors if applicable. Place of Publication: Publisher; Date of publication [Date of citation]. Availability.

e.g.


• When referencing an Ebook use [Internet] in the Medium field
• For the Date of Citation use the order: year > month > day. e.g. [cited 2014 May 8]
• For the availability field use the text "Available from" followed by a colon and a space. Then enter the full URL of the ebook.
• List the authors names in the order that they appear in the text
• Use initials for first and middle names of the authors, up to a maximum of two initials
• Do not use periods/stops between initials. e.g. JB not J.B.
• Separate names of authors using a comma and a space. eg. Woods A, Frazier BR, Jones, C

In the text

Click here to expand...

Cite your sources by using a number in brackets in the text which links with the relevant reference in the reference list at the end of the document:

• In a 2008 study Neelam (1) ...
• Glaser argued ...(2)

Any subsequent citation of the same source should use the same reference number:

• Neelam and colleagues found (1)...

Page numbers can be added to the citation to distinguish between references to the same source: (2: 45).
In the reference list


Reference a journal article using Vancouver

Reference a print journal article using Vancouver

Required elements

Author. Article Title. Journal Title. Date of Publication; Volume Number (Issue Number): Pagination.

eg.


- List the authors names in the order that they appear in the text
- Use initials for first and middle names of authors, up to a maximum of two initials
- Do not use periods/stops between initials e.g. JB not J.B.
- Separate names of authors using a comma and a space e.g. Woods A, Frazier BR, Jones, C
- Use et al. for the seventh and subsequent authors
- List the date of publication in the order of year > month > day. eg. 2012 Aug 1
- In the date, abbreviate the month to the first three letters e.g. Jan, Feb
- If there are a large number of authors, use et al. for the seventh and subsequent authors

Examples:

• Journal article with multiple authors but less than seven


• Journal article with seven or more authors


NOTE: // you have used the electronic version of the journal, cite the electronic version

In the text

Cite your sources by using a number in brackets in the text which links with the relevant reference in the reference list at the end of the document:

• In a 2008 study Neelam (1)...
• Glaser argued ...(2)
Any subsequent citation of the same source should use the same reference number:

- Neelam and colleagues found (1)...

Page numbers can be added to the citation to distinguish between references to the same source: (2: 45).

**In the reference list**

The entries in the reference list or bibliography should be arranged in numerical order relating to the citation in the text:


**Reference an electronic journal article using Vancouver**

**Required elements**

Author. Article Title. Journal Title [Type of Medium]. Date of Publication [Date of Citation]; Volume Number (Issue Number): Pagination. Availability

Eg.


**NOTE:** Vancouver style uses abbreviated journal titles, eg. Arch Ophthalm for Archives of Ophthalmology. See the NLM Abbreviations Guide for details on standard abbreviations.

- When referencing an Electronic Journal Article use [Internet] in the Type of Medium field
- For the Date of Citation use the order: *year > month > day*. Eg. [cited 2014 Feb 8]
- For the availability field use the text “Available from” followed by a colon and a space. Then enter the full URL or doi.
- List the authors names in the order that they appear in the text
- Use initials for first and middle names of the authors, up to a maximum of two initials
- Do not use periods/stops between initials. JB not J.B.
- Separate names of authors using a comma and a space. Eg. Woods A, Frazier BR, Jones, C
- If there are a large number of authors, use et al. for the seventh and subsequent authors.

**Examples:**

- **Electronic journal article with multiple authors but less than seven:**


- **Electronic journal article with seven or more authors:**

In the text

Cite your sources by using a number in brackets in the text which links with the relevant reference in the reference list at the end of the document:

- In a 2008 study Neelam (1)...
- Glaser argued (2).

Any subsequent citation of the same source should use the same reference number:

- Neelam and colleagues found (1)...

Page numbers can be added to the citation to distinguish between references to the same source: (2:45).

In the reference list

The entries in the reference list or bibliography should be arranged in numerical order relating to the citation in the text:


Reference online sources using Vancouver

Reference a website using Vancouver

Required elements

Homepage:

Author. Title [Type of medium]. Place of publication: Publisher; Date of publication [Date of update/revision; Date of citation]. Availability.

eg

Faculty of Science and Technology [Internet]. Bailrigg, Lancaster: Lancaster University [Updated 2014 19 June; Cited 2014 June 24]. Available at: http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/sci-tech/ (There is no author in this example so the author field has been omitted)

- When referencing a website use [Internet] in the Type of Medium field
- For the Date of Citation use the order: year > month > day. eg. [cited 2014 Feb 8]
- For the availability field use the text "Available from" followed by a colon and a space. Then enter the full URL.
- Where there is no publication date, no copyright date and no update date use the Citation date only.

Other pages of a website:

Title of Homepage [Type of medium]. Place of publication: Publisher; Date of publication of homepage. Title of part. Date of publication of part [Date of citation of part]; [location or pagination of part]. Availability.

eg
Video on a website:

Title of Homepage [Type of medium]. Place of publication: Publisher; Date of publication of homepage, [Video], Title of video; Date of video [Date of update; Date of citation]; [Duration of video]. Availability.

eg


In the text

Cite your sources by using a number in brackets in the text which links with the relevant reference in the reference list at the end of the document:

- In a 2008 study Neelam (1) ...
- Glaser argued ... (2)

Any subsequent citation of the same source should use the same reference number:

- Neelam and colleagues found (1) ...

Page numbers can be added to the citation to distinguish between references to the same source: (2: 45).

In the reference list

The entries in the reference list or bibliography should be arranged in numerical order relating to the citation in the text:

1. Faculty of Science and Technology [Internet]. Bailrigg, Lancaster: Lancaster University [Updated 2014 19 June; Cited 2014 June 24]. Available at: http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/sci-tech/


Reference a blog using Vancouver

Required elements

Author. Title [Type of medium]. Place of publication: Publisher. Date of publication [Date of citation]. Availability.

eg


- When referencing a blog use [blog on the internet] in the Type of medium field
- Where the place of publication is not listed on the blog, use [place unknown].
- For the publisher, use the owner of the blog in the format: forename, surname.
- For the Date of Citation use the order: year > month > day. e.g. [cited 2014 May 8]
- For the availability field use the text “Available from” followed by a colon and a space. Then enter the full URL of the ebook.
- List the authors names in the order that they appear in the text
- Use initials for first and middle names of the authors, up to a maximum of two initials
- Do not use periods/stops between initials. e.g. JB not J.B.
• Separate names of authors using a comma and a space. eg. Woods A, Frazier BR, Jones, C

In the text

Cite your sources by using a number in brackets in the text which links with the relevant reference in the reference list at the end of the document:

• In a 2008 study Neelam (1) ...
• Glaser argued ...(2)

Any subsequent citation of the same source should use the same reference number:

• Neelam and colleagues found (1)...

Page numbers can be added to the citation to distinguish between references to the same source: (2: 45).

In the reference list

The entries in the reference list or bibliography should be arranged in numerical order relating to the citation in the text:


Reference a thesis using Vancouver

Required elements

The following elements are required to reference a thesis using Vancouver.

Author. Title [Content Type]. [Place of publication]: Publisher; Date. Total number of pages.

eg

Smith, NI. A corpus-based investigation of recent change in the use of the progressive in British English [Thesis]. Department of Linguistics and English Language, Lancaster University; 2005. p.271.

Electronic theses

Online theses are referenced in the same format as a print thesis, but with the following exceptions/additions.

Author. Title [Content Type]. [Place of publication]: Publisher; Date [Date of citation]. Total number of pages. Availability.

eg


In the text

Cite your sources by using a number in brackets in the text which links with the relevant reference in the reference list at the end of the document:

• In a 2008 study Neelam (1) ...
• Glaser argued ...(2)

Any subsequent citation of the same source should use the same reference number:

• Neelam and colleagues found (1)...

Page numbers can be added to the citation to distinguish between references to the same source: (2: 45).

In the reference list

The entries in the reference list or bibliography should be arranged in numerical order relating to the citation in the text:

- List the authors names in the order that they appear in the text
- Use initials for first and middle names of authors, up to a maximum of two initials
- Do not use periods/stops between initials e.g. JB not J.B.
- Separate names of authors using a comma and a space e.g. Woods A, Frazier BR, Jones, C
- Use et al. for the seventh and subsequent authors
- When referencing an online newspaper article use [Internet] in the Type of Medium field
- List the date of publication in the order of year > month > day. e.g. 2012 Aug 1
- Enter the Date of Citation in square brackets following the date of publication. For the Date of Citation use the order: year > month > day. e.g. [cited 2014 Feb 8]
- If a location or pagination for the article is not provided in the online version try and calculate the length of the article using the best means possible, e.g., in terms of print pages, screens, or paragraphs
- Provide the URL or other electronic address of the article in the Availability field (use the text "Available from" followed by a colon and a space. Then enter the full URL)

In the text
Cite your sources by using a number in brackets in the text which links with the relevant reference in the reference list at the end of the document:

- In a 2008 study Neelam (1) ...
- Glaser argued ...(2)

Any subsequent citation of the same source should use the same reference number:

- Neelam and colleagues found (1)...

Page numbers can be added to the citation to distinguish between references to the same source: (2: 45).

In the reference list
The entries in the reference list or bibliography should be arranged in numerical order relating to the citation in the text:


Reference a print newspaper article using Vancouver

Required elements
Author. Article Title. Newspaper Title (Edition if applicable). Date of publication: Section: Location (Column number if applicable)

eg

- List the authors names in the order that they appear in the text
• Use initials for first and middle names of authors, up to a maximum of two initials
• Do not use periods/stops between initials e.g. JB not J.B.
• Separate names of authors using a comma and a space e.g. Woods A, Frazier BR, Jones, C
• Use et al. for the seventh and subsequent authors
• List the date of publication in the order of year > month > day. e.g. 2012 Aug 18

In the text
Cite your sources by using a number in brackets in the text which links with the relevant reference in the reference list at the end of the document:

• In a 2008 study Neelam (1) ...
• Glaser argued ...(2)

Any subsequent citation of the same source should use the same reference number:

• Neelam and colleagues found (1)...

Page numbers can be added to the citation to distinguish between references to the same source: (2: 45).

In the reference list
The entries in the reference list or bibliography should be arranged in numerical order relating to the citation in the text:


Reference a paper from a conference proceeding using Vancouver

Reference an electronic paper from an online conference proceedings using Vancouver

Required elements
The following elements are required to reference an electronic paper from an online conference proceedings using the Vancouver style.

• When referencing an Electronic paper use [Internet] in the Type of Medium field
• For the Date of Citation use the order: year > month > day. eg. [cited 2014 Feb 8]
• For the availability field use the text “Available from” followed by a colon and a space. Then enter the full URL or doi.

Where the proceedings have a title:

Authors of paper. Title of paper. In: Editors. Proceedings/Book title [Type of medium]. Conference title. Date of Conference; Place of conference. Place of publication: Publisher; Date of publication. [Date of citation]. Pagination. Availability.

eg.

Where no separate title is given to the proceedings:
Where the proceedings are a special issue of a journal or part of a series:

If the proceedings are a special issue of a journal or part of a series, list this information in brackets after the pagination.

Authors of paper. Title of paper. In: Editors. Conference title [Type of medium]. Date of Conference; Place of conference. Place of publication: Publisher; Date of publication. [Date of citation]. Pagination. (Journal title. Volume/Issue. Supplement if appropriate). Availability.

eg.


In the text

Cite your sources by using a number in brackets in the text which links with the relevant reference in the reference list at the end of the document:

- In a 2008 study Neelam (1) ...
- Glaser argued ...(2)

Any subsequent citation of the same source should use the same reference number:

- Neelam and colleagues found (1)...

Page numbers can be added to the citation to distinguish between references to the same source: (2: 45).

In the reference list

The entries in the reference list or bibliography should be arranged in numerical order relating to the citation in the text:


Reference a paper from a conference proceedings using Vancouver

Required elements

The following elements are required to reference a paper from a conference proceedings using the Vancouver style.

Where the proceedings have a title:


eg.


Where no separate title is given to the proceedings:

Authors of paper. Title of paper. In: Editors. Conference title. Date of Conference; Place of conference. Place of publication: Publisher; Date of publication. Pagination.

eg.


Where the proceedings are a special issue of a journal or part of a series:

If the proceedings are a special issue of a journal or part of a series, list this information in brackets after the pagination.

Authors of paper. Title of paper. In: Editors. Conference title. Date of Conference; Place of conference. Place of publication: Publisher; Date of publication. Pagination. (Journal title. Volume/Issue. Supplement if appropriate)

eg.


In the text

Cite your sources by using a number in brackets in the text which links with the relevant reference in the reference list at the end of the document:

- In a 2008 study Neelam (1) ...
• Glaser argued ...(2)

Any subsequent citation of the same source should use the same reference number:

• Neelam and colleagues found (1)...

Page numbers can be added to the citation to distinguish between references to the same source: (2: 45).

The entries in the reference list or bibliography should be arranged in numerical order relating to the citation in the text:


Examples:

Organisation as the author (no report number):

Organisation as the author (with report number):


In the text

Cite your sources by using a number in brackets in the text which links with the relevant reference in the reference list at the end of the document:

- In a 2008 study Neelam (1) ...
- Glaser argued ...(2)

Any subsequent citation of the same source should use the same reference number:

- Neelam and colleagues found (1)...

Page numbers can be added to the citation to distinguish between references to the same source: (2: 45).

In the reference list

The entries in the reference list or bibliography should be arranged in numerical order relating to the citation in the text:


Further examples of using Vancouver can be found on the NLM Style Guide

Vancouver style uses abbreviated journal titles, e.g. Arch Opthalmol for Archives of Ophthalmology.
See the NLM Abbreviations Guide for details on standard abbreviations.