Books

Author(s), editor(s), title, publisher (name and place), publication date, edition, translator, and other citation elements can all be found on the title page.

- The title page is generally a couple of pages in from the front cover.
- The layout changes from book to book
  - one side of the page usually has at least the title and the publisher’s logo with lots of blank space
  - the other side will have lots of small print, numbers and information you won’t need to use. You will, however, have to look through this side of the page to find the citation information that wasn’t listed on the first side of the page.

Chapter in an edited book

Many academic books are composed of chapters that are each written by a different author. Such chapters are separate essays that each contributes to the topic of the book. In this case, you will also need to look at the table of contents for your citation information.

The table of contents is usually located after the title page. It is a list of chapter titles and their authors, with the pages for each chapter.

- The citation style guide will ask you for the author. That is the author of the chapter. You will also need the chapter title. These can both be found in the table of contents.
- You will also need the book title and the book’s editor. Those can be found on the title page, along with the other information such as publisher, date, edition, etc.

| ? | The author is the writer of the source you’re citing. Sometimes the whole book is written by an author. Sometimes the author is one of several authors who all contributed chapters to a book. Books like that have editors.

The editor is the person, or people, who chose and compiled the chapters that are written by different authors but contribute collectively to the topic of the book. Sometimes the editor has also written, or authored, a chapter in the book.
In this case, the editor’s name will be in your citation twice – as both author and editor.

What’s the difference between an author and an editor?

The following examples indicate what the different citation elements might look like in a book. Remember that this is just one example. This information will be in a different order in different books.

Includes bibliographical references and index.


GN33.B66 1997
306'.01—dc20 96-16175
CIP

British Cataloguing-in-Publication information available

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Introduction to Cultural Appropriation: A Framework for Analysis

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The resulting citation for the print version of the book would be:

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Author(s), article title, journal title, publication date, pages, and other elements can all be found on the first page of the article, the abstract (a brief description of what the article is about) or the database citation information.

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