This guide includes examples based on the 3rd edition (2006) of *The ACS Style Guide: A Manual for Authors and Editors* edited by Anne M. Coghill and Lorrin R. Garson. For further explanation and more examples, please consult the full *Guide*, which is available both in print and online.

Every effort has been made to ensure that the information in this QuickGuide is accurate and current. However, in case of discrepancies, the *ACS Style Guide* is the authoritative source for citation information.

In-text references may be cited in one of two ways: **either** by number (superscript or an italicized number in parentheses) or by author-date. **Both** types require the inclusion of a bibliography (under the heading ‘Literature Cited’). The Literature Cited section is arranged based on the in-text reference style: arrange references in numerical order if numbering references, or alphabetically if using the author-date style. ACS style abbreviates periodical (journal) titles. To determine the abbreviated title, search for the full title at [http://cassi.cas.org/](http://cassi.cas.org/) or [http://www.library.ubc.ca/scieng/coden.html](http://www.library.ubc.ca/scieng/coden.html)

### Literature Cited

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Journal article</th>
<th>Literature Cited</th>
<th>In Text (number)</th>
<th>In Text (author-date)</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>One-word journal title</strong></td>
<td>Kim, Y. H.; Fox, J. L. The Chemistry of Hydrocarbon Ions in the Jovian Ionosphere. <em>Icarus</em> <strong>1994</strong>, 112 (2), 310-325. <strong>NOTE:</strong> If a journal title is only one word, do not abbreviate it.</td>
<td>Kim and Fox (4)</td>
<td>(Kim and Fox, 1994)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Book</strong>&lt;br&gt;(See p. 300, <em>ACS Style Guide</em>)</td>
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<td><strong>Edited book</strong>&lt;br&gt;(See p. 301, <em>ACS Style Guide</em>)</td>
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<td><strong>Ebook</strong>&lt;br&gt;(See p. 319, <em>ACS Style Guide</em>)</td>
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<td><strong>Chapter or article in an edited book</strong>&lt;br&gt;(See p. 300, <em>ACS Style Guide</em>)</td>
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<td><strong>Magazine article</strong>&lt;br&gt;(See p. 299, <em>ACS Style Guide</em>)</td>
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<td><strong>Web page</strong>&lt;br&gt;(See p. 320, <em>ACS Style Guide</em>)</td>
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<td><strong>Personal Communication</strong>&lt;br&gt;(See p. 316, <em>ACS Style Guide</em>)</td>
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<td>Smith, J. T. Augustana Campus, University of Alberta, Camrose, AB. Personal communication, 2005.</td>
<td>Smith(^13)</td>
<td>(Smith, 2005)</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sample Literature Cited (using author-date system; note single-spacing and hanging indent)

Literature Cited


Sample Literature Cited (using number system; note single-spacing and hanging indent)

Literature Cited


Questions? Ask Us!

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Anatomy of a Citation

The following example describes the elements of a citation. It is based on a journal article retrieved online in PDF format.

**Author(s)**
Authors’ names are inverted (last name followed by a comma then first and middle initials (if given))
For more than one author, insert a semi-colon after the first author’s first initial(s) then add the additional author(s) names
End with a period

**Article Title**
Capitalize all principal words in the title (e.g. not words such as “of”, “the”, “is”)  
End the title with a period

**Journal Title**
Abbreviate the journal name with a period after each abbreviation (see links on pg. 1 of ACS Citation Style QuickGuide for abbreviations)
Italicize the abbreviated journal title

**Format**
Single-spaced with a hanging indent

**Medium of Publication**
For articles accessed online, indicate “Online” in square brackets

**Date of Publication**
Bold year of publication, followed by a comma

**Volume/Issue**
Give volume number in italics followed by the issue number in brackets (if given), followed by a comma

**Page Numbers**
Give inclusive page numbers for the entire article, separated by a dash and followed by a period

**URL**
Provide the URL used to access the article

**Date of Access**
Indicate the date the article was accessed (i.e. the date you looked at it) in the order shown above in parentheses