The CSE documentation style is used primarily in the medical sciences, but also encompasses all scientific disciplines writing and submitting papers intended for journal publication. There are three documentation systems: **citation-sequence system**, **citation-name system**, and the **name-year system**. In this guide, examples of the citation-sequence and name-year systems are given since references in the citation-name format will be the same as those in the citation-sequence system.

- **Citation-sequence system**: Superscripted numbers are inserted at the point of reference, sequentially numbered in the order in which they first appear, like this\(^1\). It is possible to cite more than one reference within one sentence by using a superscript sequence of numbers\(^2,3\). The citations are then listed numerically in the end references page.

- **Citation-name system**: Superscripted numbers are inserted at the point of reference as in the citation-sequence system. However, the citations are numbered according to the alphabetical listing by author's last name of cited works in the end reference page.

- **Name-year format**: Referred to in the body of the paper using the in-text style. The in-text style for citations includes the author's name and the year of publication within parentheses and the page. The citations are listed alphabetically by the author’s surname in the end references page.


### Formatting Your Paper

Please check with your instructor about their requirements for the format of your paper (i.e., font, line spacing, headers, etc.). In CSE, there is no standard format to follow as science writers are typically submitting papers to journals and must follow the journal’s standards for formatting. However, here are some guidelines for citations:

- **Organization of the list** is determined by which documentation system you are using. If you are using citation-sequence, list the citation in the numerical order that it appears in the text. In the citation-name system, first alphabetize all the citations by authors’ last names, then number them in the order they appear in the list of references. For the name-year system, the citations are alphabetized by authors’ last names.

- **All lines are flush with the left margin, no hanging indentations are used.**

- **Authors’ last names are listed first, then the first and middle initial (if given). No commas are used in between the last name and first initial. In addition, no periods are used in between initials. Example: Brown AC.**

- **Use all authors’ names if a work has up to ten authors listed. For a work with more than ten authors, list the first ten names followed by a comma and “et al.” Example: Brown MW, Keats EJ, Willems M, Lowry L, Sachar L, Rylant C, Collins S, London J, Tolkien Jr, Bang M, et al.**

- **Titles of books and articles are not italicized, “placed within quotation marks”, or underlined. Only the first word of the title is capitalized, after that only proper names in the title are the only words that should be capitalized.**

- **Journal titles that consist of more than one word are abbreviated. All the words in the abbreviated title are capitalized. For a searchable database of journal abbreviations visit CASSI (http://cassi.cas.org/search.jsp), American Chemical Society’s Source Index search tool. Also, the National Library of Medicine has a list of commonly used journal abbreviations at [http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/bookshelf/br.fcgi?book=app](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/bookshelf/br.fcgi?book=app).**

- **Do not end the citation with a period if you include the URL.**
BOOK – ONE AUTHOR
Citation-sequence:
Author’s name. Title. Edition. Place of publication: Publisher; date.

Example:

Name-year:
Author’s name. Date. Title. Edition. Place of publication: Publisher.

Example:

BOOK – TWO TO TEN AUTHORS
Citation-sequence:
Authors’ names. Title. Edition. Place of publication: Publisher; date.

Example:

Name-year:
Authors’ names. Date. Title. Edition. Place of publication: Publisher.

Example:

CHAPTER OF A BOOK
Citation-sequence:
Author(s) of chapter. Title of chapter. In: editor(s) name, editor(s). Title of the book. Edition. Place of
publication: Publisher, date. p. page numbers of the chapters.

Example:
Vollmer G. On supposed circularities in an empirically oriented epistemology. In: Radnitzky G, Bartley
WW 3rd, editors. Evolutionary epistemology, rationality, and the sociology of knowledge. La Salle (IL):

Name-year:
Author(s) of chapter. Date. Title of chapter. In: editor(s) name, editor(s). Title of the book. Edition. Place
of publication: Publisher. p. page numbers of the chapters.

Example:
Bartley WW 3rd, editors. Evolutionary epistemology, rationality, and the sociology of knowledge. La Salle

ELECTRONIC BOOK
Citation-sequence:
Author(s) name. Title [Internet]. Edition. Place of publication: Publisher; date [cited date]. Number of
pages p. Available from: website address
WEBPAGE ON A WEBSITE

Citation-sequence:
Author(s) name. Title of the webpage [Internet]. Place of publication: Publisher; date [date updated; cited date]. Available from: web address

Example:

Name-year:
Author(s) name. Date. Title of the webpage [Internet]. Place of publication: Publisher; [date updated; cited date]. Available from: web address

**Note: When there is no author available for a work, the date of publication comes after the title in the name-year system.

Example:

VIDEO ON THE INTERNET

Citation-sequence:
Author(s) name. Title of audiovisual [video on Internet]. Edition. Place of publication: Publisher; date [cited date]. Available from: web address

Example:

Name-year:
Author(s) name. Date. Title of audiovisual [video on Internet]. Edition. Place of publication: Publisher; [cited date]. Available from: web address

Example:

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