

Student Writing Workshop

OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

NOVEMBER 5, 2015

Need and Importance

- Information and Dissemination
- Persuasion/Funding
- Documentation

Academic Writing

Fact and data-based

- Demonstrate the importance of data-based decisions to others

Acceptable sources

- Primary references
 - Experts' quantitative data collection and reporting
 - Experts' qualitative data collection and reporting
- Secondary references
 - Federal, state and local governmental agencies (US Census, CDC)
 - Non-governmental agencies
 - Peer-reviewed scientific journal articles

Federal Departments

[Department of Agriculture](#)

[Department of Commerce](#)

[Department of Defense](#)

[Department of Education \(ED\)](#)

[Department of Energy \(DOE\)](#)

[Department of Health and Human Services](#)

[Department of Homeland Security \(DHS\)](#)

[Department of Housing and Urban Development \(HUD\)](#)

[Department of the Interior \(DOI\)](#)

[Department of Justice \(DOJ\)](#)

[Department of Labor \(DOL\)](#)

[Department of State \(DOS\)](#)

[Department of the Treasury](#)

[Department of Transportation \(DOT\)](#)

[Department of Veterans Affairs \(VA\)](#)

State and Local Health Departments

Local disease reporting

Surveys (e.g. YRBS)

Prevention program data (e.g. number of HIV tests)

Other State and Local Agencies

Environmental quality

Urban planning

Education data

Sources to avoid

- Print or online publications that are not peer-reviewed
- Advocacy organizations
- “Joe’s website” found via a Google search

*Exception:

If intention is to show a sample of opinions in the culture,
quote and fully cite.

Highly regarded think tanks

Domestic Economic Policy

- Brookings Institution
- National Bureau of Economic Research
- Adam Smith Institute
- Peterson Institute for International Economics
- Cat Institute
- RAND Corporation

Energy and Resource Policy

- Oxford Institute for Energy Studies
- World Resource Institute
- RAND Corporation
- Center for Energy and Environmental Policy Research
- James A Baker III Institute for Public Policy
- American Enterprise for Public Policy Research

Environment

- World Resources Institute
- Stockholm Environment Institute
- Worldwatch Institute
- Brookings Institution
- Resources for the Future
- Center for Climate and Energy Solutions

Foreign Policies and International Affairs

- Brookings Institution
- Carnegie Endowment for International Peace
- Chatham House
- Council of Foreign Relations
- Center for Strategic and International Studies
- Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars

Highly regarded think tanks

Health

- Cambridge Centre for Health Services Research
- Bloomberg School of Public Health Research Centers
- RAND Corporation
- Brookings Institution
- Council of Foreign Relations Global Health Program
- Kaiser Permanente Institute for Health Policy

Science and Technology

- Max Planck Institute
- MIT Science, Technology and Society Program
- Information and Technology Innovation Foundation
- RAND Corporation
- Center for Development Research
- Battelle Memorial Institute

International Development

- Brookings Institution
- Center for International Development
- Overseas Development Institute
- Center for Global Development
- Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars
- Chatham House

Highly regarded think tanks

Transparency and Good Governance

- Freedom House
- Open Society Institute
- Brookings Institution
- Carnegie Endowment for International Peace
- National Endowment for Democracy
- Center for Public Integrity

Government Affiliated

- World Bank Institute
- United States Institute for Peace
- Development Research Group
- East West Center

International Economic Policy

- United Nations Development Program
- Brookings Institution
- National Bureau for Economic Research
- Peterson Institute for International Economics
- Chatham House
- American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research
- Council of Foreign Relations

Possible news sources

Good

- PBS, NPR, The Economist, Scientific American, The Guardian, New Yorker, CSPAN, BBC, Wall Street Journal, NY Times, Washington Post, Reuters, The Hill

Independent

- ProPublica, Center for Public Integrity, The Nation, The Independent, Truth-out, PRWatch, The Real News Network, Center for Investigative Reporting

Transparency and Check Your Facts

[PolitiFact](#)

- Fact-check statements from White House, Congress, candidates, advocacy groups and more
- Rates claims for accuracy on the Truth-O-Meter
- Pulitzer Prize winner

[FactCheck.org](#)

- [Scicheck](#): new project that evaluates the scientific claims made by politicians on issues ranging from [climate change](#) to [the economic impact of the Human Genome Project](#)

[University of Pennsylvania's Annenberg Public Policy Center](#)

Online search for journal articles

Useful websites

- [National Library of Medicine MEDLINE database via PubMed](#)
- [OVID](#)

Tips for an effective search

- Use keyword feature
- Check their references
- Ask librarian for help

What is plagiarism?

- Using another person's work/writing as your own
- Serious breach of ethics.
- Same consequences (regardless of negligent or intentional)

Avoiding Plagiarism

Always cite.....

- An original idea derived from a source (quoted or paraphrased)
- Factual information - not common knowledge

Introduce a quotation or paraphrase with the name of the authority (According to Sanders,)

Provide a bibliographic entry for every source cited in the paper

Using Quotations

- Use quotation marks
- Indent long quotations
- Do not use in more than 1/3 of your paper
- Use quotations to support what you say, not to present thesis and main points
- Provide in-text citations
- In-text citation goes outside the final quotation mark, but inside the period

Correct Citations

According to Wadsworth, “the health of mothers during pregnancy depends on their health throughout all of life” (Wadsworth, 1999). – Direct quote

Wadsworth points out that events that take place throughout a woman’s life prior to pregnancy have an impact on her diet and substance use, and through these, on her health during pregnancy (Wadsworth, 1999). – Paraphrase

Wadsworth, in reviewing the determinants of health during pregnancy, pointed out the importance of the entire life course (Wadsworth, 1999). - Summary

Citing a website

Last, F. M. (Year, Month Date Published). *Article title*. Retrieved from URL

- Example: Schonfeld, E. (2010, May 3). Google throws \$38.8 million to the wind [Web log post]. Retrieved May 4, 2010, from <http://techcrunch.com>

Citing a website which cites another website

- Example: China, The American Press, and the State Department [Web log post]. (2013, January 3). Retrieved from Schonfeld, E. (2010, May 3). Google throws \$38.8 million to the wind [Web log post]. Retrieved May 4, 2010, from <http://techcrunch.com>

Article from online periodical

- Example: Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (Date of publication). Title of article. *Title of Online Periodical*, volume number(issue number if available): pages. Retrieved from <http://www.someaddress.com/full/url/>

Newspaper article

- Example: Parker-Pope, T. (2008, May 6). Psychiatry handbook linked to drug industry. *The New York Times*. Retrieved from <http://well.blogs.nytimes.com>

Other reference citations

Citing a source which refers to another source

- In Seidenberg and McClelland's study (as cited in Coltheart, Curtis, Atkins, & Haller, 1993. Models of reading aloud: Dual-route and parallel-distributed-processing approaches. *Psychological Review*, 100, 589-608.)

Citing a government document

- National Institute of Mental Health. (1990). *Clinical training in serious mental illness* (DHHS Publication No. ADM 90-1679). Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office.

Report from private organization

- American Psychiatric Association. (2000). *Practice guidelines for the treatment of patients with eating disorders* (2nd ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

If no date you can put (n.d.) where the date should be....if no author you can move title to front.

- Feminism. (n.d.). In *Encyclopædia Britannica online*. Retrieved from <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/724633/feminism>

Note Taking

Careless note taking

Careless or no note taking are the most common reasons for unintentional plagiarism.

People forget what is their work and what is somebody else's work.

Careful note taking

Record the information about the source at the time of taking the notes.

Even very good writers forget what material came from whom, where, and in what form.

When is it ok not to cite?

- Common knowledge
 - What most educated people know
 - When uncertain, cite the source
- Thesis statement (own thought)
- “Organizing” and “transitional” sentences
- Comments on referenced material
- Synthesis; critical analysis of the material
- Opinions, experiences

Formats for References

AMA Style – American Medical Association

APA Style - American Psychological Association

Chicago Manual of Style

ICMJE Style - International Committee of Medical Journal Editors

MLS Style – Modern Language Association

NLM Style – National Library of Medicine Style

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SPH Resources

[SPH website links](#)

Rena Tillinghast, BA **SPH Writing Coach**

Objective - to provide students instruction in writing

- Coach students on development of their writing skills (editing papers, resumes)
- Instruct students on how and why edits are made
- Provide students will exercises for honing their writing skills to prepare for future assignments

Appointment required: Tuesday/Thursday: 1 - 3 pm (25 min, 1 hr, or 2-hr sessions)

Email [Ms. Tillinghast](#) at least one day prior to the requested appointment date.