Reading Citations

This video will identify the typical parts of citations, regardless of the citation style used.

You’ve probably seen information sources cited in a variety of formats and lists, such as APA, Chicago/Turabian, and MLA. Regardless of how the parts of a citation are arranged, most contain the same basic elements. Let’s learn how to recognize these elements for citations of books, chapters in edited books, and journal and magazine articles.

We’ll start with an example of a book citation. Book citations provide the author/s’ name, the year of publication, the title of the book, the place of publication and the publisher.

Now let’s look at the basic elements of a citation for an article, chapter, or essay in an edited book. The author/s’ name, the year of publication, title of the article, chapter, or essay, editors of the book, title of the book, page numbers of the article, chapter, or essay, the place of publication and the publisher.

Last but not least, an article in a journal or magazine. You’ll see the author/s names, the year of publication, the title of the article, the title of the journal or magazine, the volume number (sometimes with the issues number), and the pages of the article.

We covered the basic elements of citations. Your professors will probably be more specific regarding the formats and styles that you should use.

Remember our e-mail address: askalibrarian@auburn.edu.