What is referencing?

When constructing your essay, you should show your research through your sources. It is important to use books and other texts to support your arguments and that these are recorded through referencing.

References act as a record that you have used another person’s words or ideas. All points taken from other authors should be referenced accordingly. Bibliographies list the texts and other sources that you have used for your work.

References and bibliographies allow the reader to identify the exact sources of what you have written, and ensure that you have not plagiarised in your work.

References are used throughout work (for example, a book, article, image, etc.). It shows readers where specific pieces of information came from and how readers can find it themselves. It acknowledges, or gives credit to the author who actually created the content being used.

The opposite of a citation is plagiarism, or not giving credit to others for their ideas, concepts, or images. Plagiarism is considered taking the work of others and presenting it as one’s own. Source citations give work credibility. In other words, it shows the information is not simply made up.

In this essay, we would like you to use the Oxford referencing style. This consists of two elements: footnote citations and a bibliography at the end of the document. It is important that you follow the guidelines laid out in this document exactly, to ensure good academic practice and consistency throughout your work.
How to use Oxford references

When creating footnotes, you will need to indicate a reference by putting a superscript number directly following the source material - this number is called the note identifier. This is followed up through a footnote citation at the bottom of the page.

The note identifier, also referred to as the in-text citation, and the footnote should have the same number, to ensure that the reader knows which source the identifier is referring to. Citations should be listed in chronological order.

Learn more here.

Bibliography

Your bibliography should include the names of the authors, title and the date of publication, the name of publisher and the place of publication.

All sources referenced in your footnotes should be included in your bibliography, as well as any other sources that informed your work which you didn’t necessarily quote or paraphrase.

Your bibliography should be organised alphabetically by author, then by title; films referred to in the text should be included in the list, alphabetically by title.
Oxford Referencing Example

Below is an example of the Oxford referencing system. It is a two part system that has a reference as a footnote at the bottom of that page as well as a list of references, also known as a bibliography, at the end of the essay.

Example: According to a recent study, food waste recycling could be contributing to the increase in antibiotic resistance.

The information provided here is not something that you, the writer, knew before you read the study, it is therefore important to show exactly where you found this information and who is responsible for the research.


The first part of the reference provides the names of the authors, the second part is the title of the article. The next part, in italics, is the name of the journal, then the volume number and issue number. The section in brackets shows the year that this was published. Finally, the page number where this information can be found is provided in the footnote, and the page range of the article is provided in the bibliography.
Referencing Different Formats

Different sources will require different referencing formats. Examples of how to cite this information within your bibliography is shown below.


**Film**: *Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone*. Dir. Chris Columbus. UK-US. 2001
