IEEE Referencing guidelines

Harvard and IEEE are the recommended styles by the Electronic Engineering and Computing Departments. Please read this guide for reference.

What is referencing and why is it important?
Academic work is developed by thinking about ideas put forward by others. It is legitimate and appropriate to synthesise the work of others, providing you acknowledge the sources accurately. Sources can be books, journal articles, newspaper reports, standards, patents, conference proceedings, web pages, photographs, e-mail. In fact anything at all!

Referencing is an academic convention designed to illustrate that you can collate information from various sources. It indicates that you have selected, summarised and extended information from your reading and can develop the discussion of a subject to support your argument and give credibility to the information you present in assignments. It enables your tutors to check the accuracy and validity of the evidence presented. It should also enable your tutors and other interested readers to trace the sources you cite and to use the same evidence for their own purposes. Importantly, it avoids the accusation of plagiarism and it acknowledges the hard work of other researchers.

Accurate and intelligent referencing can enhance a good essay and contribute to the marks you gain. Consistency and accuracy are important to enable readers to identify and locate the material to which you have referred. The same set of rules should be followed every time you cite a reference.

IEEE referencing
There are many different styles of referencing in use and you may be required to know more than one so it is important to check with and to follow your Department’s specific regulations as they may have alternative preferred formats. For example the Harvard style, commonly known as the author/date system, cites the author/date in brackets within the text, but the IEEE referencing style, also known as the numerical system, uses numerical citations in square brackets to refer to a reference list at the end of the paper.

The numbers appear in numerical order in both the text citation and the reference list: the first reference will be [1], the second [2] and so on.

For example, your in-text citation may look like this: Yong and Zhou [1] have built upon recent work by Nakamura [2].

And your Reference List entry should correspond to the citation, for example:
If references are repeated, they take the same number as before so if as in the above example Yong and Zhou’s research is referenced with “[1],” it will be referenced by that number for the rest of the document.

Quoting, Summarizing and Paraphrasing

Please note: if your reference is pinpointing a particular section of text such as when using a direct quote then you must include the page number in the reference list. When you are paraphrasing, or referring indirectly to a secondary source without making a direct quotation, the statements still need to be referenced, and page numbers should still be given. However, if you are summarising a longer section, article or book then a page number will not be necessary.

A paraphrase is a rewording of an author’s words to reinforce your own arguments or ideas and should be used most frequently in your work. Make sure it is relevant to your argument and use your own style of writing, but do not change the meaning of the original.

A summary is a brief account, in your own words, of what an author says and is for occasional use.
• Follow the same order of ideas as the original.
• Condense the meaning of a larger text into a more concise format.
• Use only what is most important or relevant from the text.

Direct quotes from a source (where you use the exact phrase or words of the author) are used to support an argument only when another author expresses an idea in a way that you feel should not be changed. **Do not overuse them!**

Indicate quotations by typing double inverted commas marks around the exact words, phrase or sentence. This must then be followed by a reference number in square brackets. The reference for the quotation, including the page number, should be given in the corresponding reference in the list of references at the end of the assignment.

• Reproduce the original text exactly. Any changes made to the quote must be placed in [square brackets].
• Use direct quotes to reinforce your original ideas, not to introduce or make new arguments.

Referencing page numbers in-text
To include a page number for a quote, table, figure etc. in an in-text citation, place it after the reference number in the square brackets.

In-text citation for a single page [2, p.10]
In-text citation for multiple pages [7, pp.20-39]

Citing multiple references in-text
If you are citing more than one reference, include the numbers of the references separately:
  e.g. Several articles [2], [9], [11] have indicated
IEEE Examples - In-text citations and Reference List

Books

Elements to cite:

Number of reference (from in text citation)

- Initials and surname of the author(s), editor(s) or name of organisation
- Title: Subtitle of publication (in *italics*)
- Edition (only include the edition number if it is not the first edition)
- Volume if relevant
- Place of publication: publisher
- Year of publication
- Page numbers if appropriate

Example: Book with one author

In-text citation
This approach highlights and explores the common ground between analogue and digital electronics [1].

Reference List

Chapters/sections of edited books

Elements to cite:

- Number of reference (from in text citation)
- Author of the chapter/section (Initials followed by surname)
- Title of chapter/section (in single quotation marks)
- ‘in’ plus:
- Title of book (in italics)
- Author/editor of book
- Place of publication: publisher
- Year of publication
- Page numbers of chapter/section

Example

In-text citation
The efficacy of the theory was confirmed by [2].

Reference List
Electronic books

Elements to cite:
- Number of reference (from in text citation)
- Author/editor/organisation (Initials followed by surname)
- Title of book (in italics)
- Edition (only include the edition number if it is not the first edition)
- Volume if relevant
- Place of publication: publisher
- Year of publication
- Page numbers if appropriate
- [E-book]
- Available at: URL
- (Accessed: date)

Example

In-text citation
This particular method can clearly be seen in [3].

Reference List

Journal/newspaper articles in online collections

Elements to cite:
- Number of reference (from in text citation)
- Author (Initials followed by surname)
- Title of article (in quotation marks)
- Title of journal (in italics)
- Volume, issue, page numbers
- Year of publication
- Name of collection if appropriate
- [Online]
- Available at: URL of collection or Digital Object Identifier
- (Accessed: date)

Example: Journal article with one author

In-text citation
A recent examination of the transport of nanoscale zinc oxide [4] found that…

Reference List
Website

Elements to cite:

- Number of reference (from in text citation)
- Author (Initials followed by surname)
- Title of document (in quotation marks)
- Name of website
- Source/production information if appropriate
- Date published on internet
- [Format]. Available: internet address
- [Accessed: Date of access]

Example:

In-text citation
These cuts will impact upon current national security as well as making it more difficult to allocate industry resources for meeting future threats [5].

Reference List

Standard

Elements to cite:

- Number of reference (from in text citation)
- Title of standard in italics
- Standard number
- Date

Example:

In-text citation
These aspects are evident in the standard [6].

Reference List
Patent

Elements to cite:

- Number of reference (from in text citation)
- Inventors Initials and Surname
- "Patent title"
- Patent number, Month Day, Year.

Example:

In-text citation
…as noted in the patent for this invention [7].

Reference List

Pre-print or article accepted for publication

Elements to cite:

- [citation number]
- Author initials. Author last name.
- (Year article posted/update, Date article posted/updated)
- “Title of paper,”
- Journal Title if appropriate in italics, description i.e. to be published (if accepted for publication)/submitted for publication (if not yet accepted)
- [Online]
- Available: URL or as appropriate

Example:

In-text citation
These cuts will impact upon current national security as well as making it more difficult to allocate industry resources for meeting future threats [8].

Reference List
IEEE Referencing

Example Reference List


Acknowledgements

With thanks to Murdoch University Library for kindly granting permission to link to their IEEE citation guide and to Edinburgh University Library for their kind permission to use and link to their IEEE guide

Additional sites consulted include:
- IEEE Editorial Style Manual
- IEEE Citation Reference