There are several different ways to incorporate references into your work. The following is a guide to **CITING LITERATURE (CSE format) for Life Sciences. DO NOT USE APA or MLA!!!**

What is plagiarism?

McMillan (2001) defines plagiarism as “the theft of someone else's words, work, or ideas”. This can include the intentional copying of someone else's words or ideas (from published or unpublished sources, e.g., another student) without proper acknowledgement or the unintentional inclusion of words or ideas that have been modified somewhat but are still too similar to the source material to be passed off as original work. To avoid unintentional plagiarism, take the following steps when you are doing your library research.

1. Read the source material carefully and take notes **in your own words and with your own sentence structure and syntax**.
2. Look up any words whose meaning you are unsure of in a regular or specialized dictionary (e.g., dictionary of biological terms).
3. Summarize the information that is relevant to your research.
4. Record all the bibliographical information that you will need to correctly cite and list your sources.
5. Always keep in mind that any information that is not common knowledge (i.e., known to the general population, not just the scientific community) must always be cited. A general rule is, when in doubt cite! You are not likely to be admonished for having too many citations.  


**CITING LITERATURE WITHIN THE TEXT OF YOUR PAPER**

In your written work, every time you mention an item of information or any idea that is not your own, the source must be credited directly in the text; this is known as citing literature. This usually refers to published material but can also include personal communications from colleagues, professors, etc. Avoid using direct quotations and footnotes wherever possible. Do not copy **verbatim** from your sources; rephrase the material into your own words and acknowledge the source in one of the following ways:

**If the source has one author:**

Pratt (1978) found that ingestion of soft drinks increases irritability of rats. **OR** Ingestion of soft drinks increases the irritability of rats (Pratt 1978).

Note that only the author's last name is used (no first name or initials) and the year (because the author might have more than one publication). If the author has more than one publication in the same year, list these as 1978a, 1978b, etc. Do not include the title of the reference or where it was found (i.e., journal, volume or page numbers).

**If the source has two authors:**

Birle and Suthers (1981) are in agreement with respect to these effects of soft drinks on rat physiology. **OR** the effects of soft drinks on rat physiology was supported by other studies (Birle and Suthers 1981).

If the two authors have the same last name, both names must be included.

**If citing two sources in the same sentence:**

Pratt (1978) and Birle and Suthers (1981) are in agreement with respect to these effects of soft drinks on rat physiology. **OR** There is general agreement about the effects of soft drinks on rat physiology (Pratt 1978, Birle and Suthers 1981).

Note the chronological order of the two references and that the citation occurs before the period at the end of the sentence.

**If there are three or more authors:**

Purves *et al.* (1992) recognize five kingdoms of organisms. **OR** Five kingdoms of organisms are now recognized (Purves *et al.* 1992).

It is appropriate to use "*et al.*" when citing references to indicate the involvement of three or more authors; however, this Latin abbreviation for "and others" must be **italicized**.
Electronic journal articles:
These are articles in refereed journals that are now available electronically (do not confuse these with un-refereed web sites). Cite these the same way as you would other journal articles.

Personal communications:
Although the recommended diet is 1 g/day flour, mealworms survive just as well on 0.5 g bran/day (W. Woolfrey, Biology Lab Technician, personal communication). Include the first name or initials of a personal communication but do not include the year. Personal communications are less credible than written sources so always try to find written references.

Electronic communications:
Website or other electronically obtained information (with the exception of on-line refereed journal articles) should be treated with the same credibility as personal communications (less reliable than written sources). Include the date you accessed the site and the author or site name in your citation.

When preparing food for rearing insects, it is important to keep all food free from bacterial contamination (Saffell 1997).

Technical papers with no denoted author:
Salmon stocks in B.C. are decreasing (Department of Fisheries and Oceans 1998). Cite the institute or organization from which it was published with the date.

If the information is cited in one of your references:
Brown (1969, cited in McMillan, 1988) reported that… List both sources in your references or literature cited section. Every effort must be made to actually read all literature cited since errors can be made in any review of the primary literature. However, if an article that has been referred to in an article you have read is unavailable, you must still indicate where you obtained the second-hand information.

REFERENCE SECTION: LISTING LITERATURE CITED
This list comes at the end of the work in a section titled "Literature Cited" and includes all literature cited in the work. Include texts, books, articles from news media, journals, electronic sources, etc. Do not include material, which you have consulted but have not, referred to directly, (i.e., which you have not cited). In addition to giving credit to those researchers who have done the work, references also allow others to use your references as background information if they wish to further investigate the details of your work. You can use them yourself to find more references on a topic, once you have found one relevant article. When listing your references, arrange them in
1. alphabetical order, by the first author's last name.
2. Include all last names and first and second name initials only (et al. is not acceptable in your reference list). Do not change the order of authors' names in a publication.
3. The year of the reference follows the author's name. If an author has more than one article, then the earliest article is listed first.
4. Titles of books or journals (but not titles of articles in the journals) should be in italics. If you are listing articles from journals, the volume number (e.g., 8 and 23 in the journal examples below) is required
5. Provide the publisher's name and city for books but not for journals.
6. Page numbers are not required for book references if you use the entire book but they are necessary if you use only specific pages or if it is a journal article or articles (chapters) in an edited volume.
7. Electronic sources (other than on-line journal articles) should include the author's name (with initials), date when the site was accessed, title of the website, and address.
8. Single space individual citations with a hanging indent; a double space between different citations. (see sample citation page)

Examples:

| Note: | in the "Literature Cited" section, include all sources in one list in alphabetical order (i.e., the divisions shown here are to clarify the examples and are unnecessary). Do not number. Leave a single line space between sources but do not double space the list. Hanging indent optional for Professor Bristol. |
Books:


Journal articles: (note that the journal name should be in italics as well as Genus species names)


Article or chapter in an edited volume:

Pamphlet or government document:

Newspaper article: (you will not use these very often unless it is a source comparison assignment, as news articles often contain inaccurate information in science.

Technical papers with no denoted author:
List alphabetically using the first letter of the institute or organization from which it was published.
Department of Fisheries and Oceans. 1998. *Salmonids of B.C*.

These paper would be listed under “D” for department.

Thesis or dissertation:

Electronic web pages *(NOTE: electronic journal articles – you do NOT cite the database websites!)*:
List author, editor or organization with date cite was created or last updated. Then the name of cite or article [Internet] followed by the [date you actually retrieved it]. List page numbers, volume numbers for journal article or publisher if it is a book -If it is just a web you will not have to include those items. The you will include: available from actual web address – make sure that your link actually will link back to that page..


Some web sites may not have an author. You may cite the organization name or government agency as the author.
Below is a sample of a Literature Cited Page:

**Literature Cited**


Champion, K.M. 2001. Chemical Characteristics of Selected Springs in the Southwest Florida Water Management District. A Master’s internship project, Geology Department, College of Arts and Sciences, University of South Florida. Tampa, FL.


