
MDIRA Bibliography Index Citation Format Specification

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Forward

The reason for these specifications is to define the format of the citations when they are displayed. The formats are based on the “USGS Suggestions to Authors” (Hanson, 1991, p.235-241) known hence forth as the STA. There is currently three Publication Types defined in the system: “Numbered Series”, “Academic” and “Other”. These types require slightly different formatting of the citation. The formatting is described in the following sections.

To understand the format, the not null (required to have a value) variable data (attribute) will be denoted as

[Some Attribute]

, and the constant text and punctuation will be denoted in black text. If an attribute can be null (no value specified), it will be denoted as

{Some Attribute}

as well as the associated punctuation in blue.

Attribute data corresponds to data that exists in the data design for this project.

Citation Parts

Prefix

The first part of the citation body all publication types share:

[Authors], [Year] [{Release Year}], [Title], ({Edition} ed.),
{Larger Work}:

Where Authors is defined as:

1. If there are two Authors, the list will be:
Author1 and Author2
2. If there are more than two Authors, the list will be:
Author1, Author2,... and AuthorN

Assumptions:

1. Author names are spelled out as specified in the STA.
2. Year is a four (4) digit number. Year maybe displayed as follows:
n.d. – if no year is specified.
XXXX – If year is the “Actual” year derived from the Title page or the Copyright page.
[XXXX] – If the year was not listed on Title or Copyright page but “discovered” in the body of the report.
[XXXX?] – If the year was not listed and not discovered but was “estimated” or “guessed”.
3. Release Year is a four (4) digit number.
4. Edition variable text should only include the numeral and the letter. e.g. “3d”.

Numbered Series

Numbered Series type citations will have the common body format plus the following (that follows the colon):

[Agency], [Series] [Series Number],

Academic

The following is for Academic type publications such as Masters Thesis and Doctorates Dissertation.

[Publication Place], [Institution], [Degree],

Other

For all other types of publications not described above use the following format.

[Other Details],

Assumptions:

1. Data contained in Other Details is the text that is displayed in the citation for this reference that follows the colon (not including the colon) and precedes the Pages information.
2. Data entered must conform to the STA. Formatting is ultimately up to the Contributor.

Postfix

All publication types share the same attributes at the end of the citation. They are described as follows:

{Pages}, {Sheets}, scale 1:{Scale}.

Assumptions:

1. Pages contain the number or pages plus the “p.” characters in the appropriate place.
2. Sheets contain the number of sheets plus the word “sheets” or “sheet”. Figure and Plates indications may be entered here.