Citation Guidelines

What Is Source Information?

Source information, sometimes called bibliographic information, is important for thorough research. Whenever you use information from SIRS Discoverer® for a report or other assignment, you must identify (cite) the original publication that contained the information, SIRS Discoverer, and in some cases The World Almanac® for Kids or Compton’s by Britannica® Encyclopedia.

Where Do I Find Source Information?

Because it is such an important element of research, source information is available in several places in SIRS Discoverer. It appears automatically with all search results, and a link is also provided from the full-text of each article. Source information is included with all pictures, maps and charts as well.

How Do I Cite Information from SIRS Discoverer?

Examples for citing information from all databases within SIRS Discoverer on the Web are available below using Modern Language Association format, American Psychological Association format and Turabian format. Ask your instructor which citation format (MLA, APA or Turabian) is preferred.

MLA (Modern Language Association) Format

Full-Text Articles
Graphics & Media
Internet Sites

APA (American Psychological Association) Format

Full-Text Articles
Graphics & Media
Internet Sites

Turabian Format

Full-Text Articles
Graphics & Media
Internet Sites
MLA (Modern Language Association) Format

Periodical Articles

Author's name. "Title of the Article." Original Source of Article Date of publication: page numbers (if none, use “n.pag.”). Title of the Database. Web. Date of access (day, month and year).


Reference Book Articles

Author name (if provided). “Title of article.” Title of the Book. Edition (if known). Year. Title of the Database. Web. Date of access (day month year).


Independent Map or Chart

Title. Graphic Type. City of Publication Publisher, Date of Publication. Title of the Database. Web. Date of access (day month year).


Map or Chart within an Article

"Title." Graphic Type. "Title of Article." By Author. Source of Article Publication Date: Page Numbers. Title of the Database. Web. Date of access (day month year).

Internet Sites

Name of the editor, compiler, or translator (if available). “Title of the Work.” (if distinct from the site) Title of the Web Site. Publisher or Sponsor of Site (if unknown, use “n.p.”), Date of publication (day, month and year; if unknown, use “n.d.”). Web. Date of access (day month year).


APA (American Psychological Association) Format

Periodicals

Author Surname, Initials. (Date published as Year, Month Day). Article title. Publication Name, Volume(Issue), page numbers, if provided. Retrieved from Homepage URL


Note: For document title and subtitle (if any), capitalize only the first word and any proper nouns. For homepage URL, it is no longer necessary to reference the database name or date of access. Do not include period after URL.

Reference Book Entries

Title of Entry. (Year). In Book Author/Editor Initials. Surname (Ed.), Reference Book Title. Publisher Location City, State or Country: Publisher Name. Retrieved from Homepage URL


Note: For document title and subtitle (if any), capitalize only the first word and any proper nouns. For homepage URL, it is no longer necessary to reference the database name or date of access. Do not include period after URL.

**Graphics & Media**

Creator Surname, Initials (Contribution), and Copyright Holder (Contribution). (Copyright year). Title of Image [Media type]. Retrieved from Homepage URL


Note: APA, Sixth edition, does not include a specific example for an image or graphic. The above examples represent one possible interpretation based on guidelines provided on p. 209 of the Publication Manual. For document title and subtitle (if any), capitalize only the first word and any proper nouns. For homepage URL, it is no longer necessary to reference the database name or date of access. Do not include period after URL.

**Internet Sites**

Name of Specific Document. (Date of online publication, Year, Month Day). In Name of online reference work. Retrieved from Homepage URL


Note: Since WebFind includes links to external Websites, it is not necessary to reference the recommending database in the citation, based on guidelines provided on p. 192 of the Sixth Edition of the APA Publication Manual. Do not include period after URL.

**Turabian Format**

**Full-Text Articles**

**Bibliography Style entry:**

Author Last name, First name. "Article title." Original source of article Volume, Number (Publication Date): Pages. URL (accessed Date of Access).

Bibliography Note Style entry:

Note Number Author’s First and Last Names, "Article title," Original source of article Volume, Number (Date of Publication): Page Numbers. URL (accessed Date of Access).


Reference List Style entry:

Author’s Last Name, Author’s First Name. Date of Publication. Title of article: Subtitle of article. Title of Journal Volume, Number (Additional Date Information): Page Numbers. URL (accessed Date of Access).


Parenthetical Style entry:

(Author’s Last Name Date of Publication, Page Numbers)

(Entin January 2009, 4+)

Graphics & Media [Cite only in Note format]

Note number “Name of Graphic,” Type of Graphic, Graphic Creator, Publication/Creation Month Year, Page Number. URL (accessed Date of Access).


Internet Sites

Name of author or sponsoring institution. “Title of Web page.” Title or owner of site. URL (accessed Date of access).


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