This is a tutorial from the librarians at Lone Star College. The purpose of this tutorial is to teach library users how to cite their sources in the Chicago Style.

The term “Chicago Style” refers to The Chicago Manual of Style, a manual of writing, documentation, and publishing. The most recent edition at the time that this video was produced is the 16th edition. It was published in 2010. In higher education in the United States, this style is commonly used in the humanities, particularly in the study of history.

The MLA and APA documentation styles usually provide in-text documentation with parenthetical citations—that is, short references within the body of the text to sources used by the author. The Chicago Style, however, prefers to use notes—either footnotes or endnotes.

Footnotes are in-text references placed at the bottom of the page on which the sources are used.

Endnotes are in-text references placed on a separate page at the end of the paper.

The Chicago Style also requires a bibliography. Like a Works Cited page in MLA or a References page in APA, the Chicago Style bibliography is a list of all sources used throughout your paper.
The difference between an in-text parenthetical reference and end-of-paper reference in MLA or APA is fairly obvious.

[Chicago Style citation types slide]

But it is not so obvious in the Chicago Style. Although the 2 citations that you see here may appear to be the same, they’re not. At the top, you see a footnote citation. At the bottom, you see a bibliography reference for the same work. Note that there are small but important differences, such as the page number and the order of the author’s names.

[Footnotes sample slide without Ibid]

If you cite a work two or more times consecutively, it’s not necessary to repeat the complete footnote or endnote citation, which is what you see here.

[Footnotes sample slide with Ibid]

Instead, when you cite a work two or more times consecutively, you can simply write “Ibid.” This is an abbreviation for the Latin term “ibidem,” which means “in the same place.” “Ibid.” directs the reader to the immediately previous complete citation for a full reference.

[PP slide list]

The Chicago Style has certain formatting requirements that you should set up in your word processor prior to composing your paper.

- Your margins should be 1 inch on all sides.
- Your typeface should be clear and readable, such as Times New Roman.
- Your font size should be 12 points.
- Your text should be double-spaced, with the exception of block quotes.
• Your notes and bibliographies should be single-spaced, but with an extra line between notes and bibliography citations.
• You should have a title page.
• You should have page numbers consisting of the number of the page in the upper right corner. The page numbers begin on the first page of the text with a number 1, not the title page.

The library has a small collection of study aids to help students write in the Chicago Style. To find them, go to the college’s homepage and click on Libraries. Then scroll down to the section marked Research Guides. Click on LSC-North Harris. Then click on Citation Help Guide. Then scroll down to the bottom to find the section on the Chicago style. There, you’ll find a link to our sample paper.

[Purdue OWL screenshot]

We also recommend that you consult the Purdue OWL for more information. This is the online writing lab of Purdue University, which has for 2 decades maintained excellent and reliable study aids on the Chicago Style, including directions on how to cite particular types of sources, as well as a sample paper. You can find the Chicago Style section of Purdue OWL at:

owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/717/1/

[Library ref desk photo]

The Lone Star College librarians also have familiarity with the Chicago Style, as well as a copy of the official 16th edition of the Chicago Manual of Style.
If you have questions about the Chicago Style or would like for us to check your documentation, please contact the library and ask for help.