APSU Writing Center
Chicago Style 17th Edition - Citing Social Media

Chicago Style 17th Edition - Social Media

- Cite social media content with text only, adding a note for formal citations if necessary. In rare cases, include a bibliography entry. Quote up to 160 characters of the post instead of a title, and cite comments about the original post.
- Cite posts ideally by the author's legal name and screen name/internet handle. Use whichever is available (legal name for Twitter, screen name for Facebook). Exclude format/medium for text-only posts. Include a time stamp only if relevant. If the full post is quoted in the main text, omit it from the note citation.

Text

Conan O'Brien's tweet was characteristically deadpan: "In honor of Earth Day, I'm recycling my tweets" (@ConanOBrien, April 22, 2015).

Notes

General Format

Author's First Name Last Name (Username), "First 160 Characters of the Post," Social Media Platform, Date, URL.

Examples

1. Pete Souza (@petesouza), "President Obama bids farewell to President Xi of China at the conclusion of the Nuclear Security Summit," Instagram photo, April 1, 2016, https://www.instagram.com/p/BDrmfXTtNCt/.
2. Chicago Manual of Style, "Is the world ready for singular they? We thought so back in 1993," Facebook, April 17, 2015, https://www.facebook.com/ChicagoManual/posts/10152906193679151.

Shortened notes

3. Souza, "President Obama."
4. Michele Truty, April 17, 2015, 1:09 p.m., comment on Chicago Manual of Style, "singular they."

Bibliography Entry

General Format

Author's Last Name, First Name (Username). "First 160 Characters of the Post." Social Media Platform. Date. URL.

Example

Chicago Manual of Style. "Is the world ready for singular they? We thought so back in 1993." Facebook, April 17, 2015. https://www.facebook.com/ChicagoManual/posts/10152906193679151.

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Chicago Style 17th Edition - Citing Blogs and Personal Communication

Chicago Style 17th Edition - Blogs
- Blog titles in italics.
- Blog entries in quotation marks.
- Typically cited in notes; may include in bibliography if frequently cited. If "blog" is in the title, there is no need to repeat it in parentheses.

Note

Author's First Name Last Name or Username, "Title of Blog Entry," Title of Blog, Date, URL.

Examples
1. J. Robert Lennon, "How Do You Revise?," *Ward Six* (blog), September 16, 2010, http://wardsix.blogspot.com/2010/09/how-do-you-revise.html.
2. John Smith, "The Power of Storytelling," Smith's Blog, February 15, 2023, https://www.smithsblog.com/power-of-storytelling.

Bibliography Entry

Last Name, First Name or Username. "Title of Blog Entry." Title of Blog. Date. URL.

Example

Smith, John. "The Power of Storytelling." Smith's Blog. February 15, 2023. https://www.smithsblog.com/power-of-storytelling.

Chicago Style 17th Edition - Personal Communication
- Personal communications, like emails, text messages, and social media direct messages, are cited in the text or note but are rarely included in the bibliography.

Note

Sender's First Name Last Name, type of communication (e.g., email, text message, personal interview), Date.

Example
1. Sam Gomez, Facebook message to author, August 1, 2017.

Shortened Note

Sender's Last Name, Brief Identifier, Date.

Example

2. Doe, email, January 15, 2023.

Bibliography Entry

Last Name, First Name of Sender. Type of communication. Date.

Example

3. Doe, John. Email. January 15, 2023.

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Chicago 17th Edition

Bibliography

Chicago Style Citation: "Chicago-Style Citation Quick Guide." The Chicago Manual of Style Online. Accessed February 22, 2024. https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide/citation-guide-1.html#cg-website

"Purdue Online Writing Lab."General Model for Citing Web Sources in the Chicago Style". Accessed February 22, 2024.https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/chicago_manual_17th_edition/cmos_formatting_and_style_guide/web_sources.html