Every written assignment must have a bibliography listing all books and articles used. Here’s what it should look like:

### Bibliography

Every book entry has:

- **Author**
- **Year**
- **Title**
- **Publisher**


The idea is that anyone looking at your paper should be able to find the sources you used. So you list each source you used with its basic identifying info. For books, that’s author, year, title, and publisher.

### FAQ: Bibliography

- **Where can I find the info?** Check the copyright page. If there’s more than one copyright year, use the earliest one. Or look it up on [worldcat.org](http://worldcat.org).

- **Ebooks too?** Yes. Online full-text ebooks and ebooks downloaded to a reader must also be listed. Usually there’s still a copyright page. With full-text resources found through the Library’s OneSearch feature, the info you need will be on the library info page you opened it up from.

- **Chicago style? MLA?** I don’t care which academic style you use. Two things matter: that you list each source you used (once), and that each entry contains author, year, title, and publisher.

- **What about journal articles?** Same idea: you give the author, year, article title, journal name, journal volume number, and page range. See the third entry in the sample above for an example.

- **How do I list online primary sources?** Online primary sources were almost always transcribed from a book. Most of the time the info on that book is listed at the beginning of the translation, or at the bottom of the web page. Make sure to include the translator’s name, the year, and the publisher. If you can’t find it, email me.
All info that came from your sources must be cited with a footnote or an in-text parenthetical citation.

Two key ideas to bear in mind:

1. Doesn’t matter if it’s a quote, a paraphrase, a description, or an idea. If it came from a source, it must be cited.

2. A footnote says this information came from one of the items in your bibliography, and that it came from a particular page.

FAQ: Footnotes & in-text cites

- **Do I have to use footnotes?** No. You can use in-text parenthetical cites, as in (George, 7).
- **How do I footnote?** In most programs, go to the Insert menu and click on “Footnote...”.
- **What if the author appears twice in the bibliography?** Give the author name plus part of the title, then the page number, as in (Pomeroy, Goddesses 89).
- **What about ancient primary sources?** There’s a special way. See the Ancient Sources page.
With an ancient primary source, you cite author, work, book, and section in the footnote. The specific book or web transcription you used still goes in the bibliography as usual.

Why is it different?

The thing about ancient sources is, there are lots and lots of different versions, editions, and translations for each work. Think about *The Iliad* by Homer. There are hundreds of different versions, printings, and translations in English alone, not to mention every other language and printing that exists. Everyone has their own copy, and it could be any version of the original text. Referring to a page number in the edition you happen to have in front of you is of limited usefulness.

To get around this problem, scholars long ago divided each ancient work into books, chapters, and sections (for prose works) or books and line numbers (for poetry and plays). The other copies of *The Iliad* out there won’t have the page numbering you have—but they will be divided the same way.

You may already be familiar with this idea from a particular kind of ancient primary source—scripture. The Bible, Qur’an, Torah, and other scriptures are divided this way (e.g., John 3:16; Quran 2:185).

Examples

Here’s how it works in practice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Only one work survives</th>
<th>Multiple works survive</th>
<th>Poetry and plays</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Every political system has a source of corruption growing within it, from which it is inseparable. For kingship it is tyranny, for aristocracy it is oligarchy, and for democracy it is government by brute force” (Polybius 6.10.3).</td>
<td>“The busts of twenty most illustrious families were borne in the procession, with the names of Manlius, Quinctius, and others of equal rank. But Cassius and Brutus outshone them all, from the very fact that their likenesses were not to be seen” (Tacitus Annals 3.76).</td>
<td>“No man or woman born, coward or brave, can shun his destiny” (Homer Iliad 6.623).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Polybius only survives via his greatest work, <em>The Histories</em>. Thus, no need to specify the work, just book, chapter, and section number.</td>
<td>Several works survive from the Roman historian Tacitus. For such writers, specify work, chapter, and section.</td>
<td>Homer’s works, <em>Iliad</em> and <em>Odyssey</em>, are epic poetry. They’re divided into books, then the lines are numbered within each book. For ancient plays (not divided into acts as modern plays are), you give line numbers: e.g., Aristophanes <em>Clouds</em> 625-629.</td>
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Note: Print editions and better online transcriptions give chapters and sections. Use the Ancient Texts page on my website to find online sources.