CLRC Writing Skills Workshop:
Introduction to Citation

Presenters:
Beth Taylor-Schott, Writing Center Coordinator
Ellen Carey, Reference and Instruction Librarian
Student Learning Outcomes

After attending this workshop, students should be able to do the following:

- Understand what citation is.
- Understand why to cite.
- Determine when to cite.
What is Citation?

Academic papers often require you to do research and use different types of sources.

Citation is how you reference and document those sources.
What is Citation?

Many features of citation are ones you see and use online all the time.

Example:

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/03/27/kids-drugs-money-parenting-advice_n_1382459.html
Why Cite?

- Citations allow readers to find out further information on the topic.
- You can’t always just click through.
- The citation is an address that you should always be able to find—the link never gets broken.
Why Cite?

- In assignments where you need to cite, you’re participating in a conversation.
- Like any other conversation, this one has rules.
A type of conversation you may already know...
A closer look...

Beth Taylor-Schott
Sometimes my kid just knocks me out...

Like · Comment · Unfollow Post · Share · Edit · December 10, 2010

Michael Petracca likes this.

Owen Schott That's impressive!
December 10, 2010 at 5:16pm · Like

Amy Schott Schwenger What????!!! No way!
February 19, 2011 at 5:14pm · Like

Write a comment...
Why Cite?
To bring in other voices

Don’t hog the mike.

Beth Taylor-Schott
Sometimes my kid just knocks me out...
Like · Comment · Unfollow Post · Share · Edit · December 10, 2010

You like this.

Beth Taylor-Schott Isn't this picture amazing?
about a minute ago · Like

Beth Taylor-Schott I mean, really, this picture is SO fabulous!
a few seconds ago · Like

Beth Taylor-Schott What a talented kid!
a few seconds ago · Like
Why Cite?

To help keep track of the conversation

Don’t make it hard for us to tell who is talking.
Why Cite?
To lend validity to your argument
Choose your sources carefully.

Who do you want in your conversation?
(BUT DON’T INVENT QUOTES!!!)
Why Cite?

- Citations give credit for intellectual property and avoid plagiarism.
Three Kinds of Intellectual Work

- Discovering information/facts
- Thinking up ideas
- Putting things into words
Three Ways to Use Sources

- **Quotation**
  - Takes words directly from the source
  - Use quotation marks as well as a citation

- **Paraphrase**
  - Puts ideas or information into your own words

- **Summary**
  - Puts ideas or information into your own words
  - Condenses ideas or information
Using Sources Well

- Do the examples in the activity demonstrate appropriate quotation, paraphrase, or summary?
- Do they need to be cited?
- Let’s look at them one-by-one....
When NOT to Cite – Common Knowledge

Example (A):

Reading enriches our lives.

- You don’t need to cite:
  - When you are using "common knowledge," things like folklore, common sense observations, myths, urban legends, and historical events (but not historical documents).
When to REWRITE!!!

Example (B):

Mar's study determined that there was significant overlap in the neurological networks used to understand fiction and those used to manage interacting with other people - specifically, interacting when trying to determine what others are thinking and feeling.

Original:

Raymond Mar, a psychologist at York University in Canada, performed an analysis of 86 fMRI studies, published last year in the Annual Review of Psychology, and concluded that there was substantial overlap in the brain networks used to understand stories and the networks used to navigate interactions with other individuals — in particular, interactions in which we’re trying to figure out the thoughts and feelings of others.

This is an example of an unacceptable paraphrase.
A paraphrasing tip:

- If you use the language of the source too closely, that does not count as an acceptable paraphrase.
- You must fully understand the original source to paraphrase appropriately.
- To test your comprehension and be sure you use your own words, set aside the source while you write your paraphrase.
When to Cite - Quotation

Example (C):

“Narratives offer a unique opportunity to engage this capacity, as we identify with characters’ longings and frustrations.”

Original:

navigate interactions with other individuals — in particular, interactions in which we’re trying to figure out the thoughts and feelings of others. Scientists call this capacity of the brain to construct a map of other people’s intentions “theory of mind.” Narratives offer a unique opportunity to engage this capacity, as we identify with characters’ longings and frustrations, guess at their hidden motives and track their encounters with friends and enemies, neighbors and lovers.

- You must cite if you use the EXACT WORDS from a source.
- You must also use quotation marks around the section you have used.
- This is called a QUOTATION.
When to Cite - Summary

Example (D):

According to studies, the more you read literature, the better you will get at interpreting other people.

Original:

Dr. Oatley and Dr. Mar, in collaboration with several other scientists, reported in two studies, published in 2006 and 2009, that individuals who frequently read fiction seem to be better able to understand other people, empathize with them and see the world from their perspective.

You must cite if you refer to INFORMATION (facts, statistics, examples) or IDEAS you found in a source, even if you use your own words.

- You can do this in a SUMMARY, which takes the source’s ideas and reports them in a shorter, or condensed form.
When to Cite – Quotation + Paraphrase

Example (E):

Researchers have shown “that individuals who frequently read fiction seem to be better able to understand other people, empathize with them and see the world from their perspective.”

Original:

- You must cite if you use the exact words from a source. You must also use quotation marks.
- This is true even if you blend the quote into your own sentence.
When NOT to Cite - Your Own Ideas

Example (F):

People who don’t like to read will never be able to understand other people.

You SHOULDN’T cite:

- If the idea does not appear in the source material!
When NOT to Cite – Common Knowledge

Example (G):

Reading fiction allows the reader to experience what is happening to the characters in a story.

- You don’t need to cite:
  - When you are using generally-accepted facts.
When NOT to Cite

You don’t need to cite:

- When writing your own lived experiences, your own observations and insights, your own thoughts, and your own conclusions about a subject
- When you are writing up your own results obtained through lab or field experiments
- When you are using "common knowledge," things like folklore, common sense observations, myths, urban legends, and historical events (but not historical documents)
- When you are using generally-accepted facts, e.g., pollution is bad for the environment.

You SHOULDN’T cite:

- If the idea does not appear in the source material.
When to Cite - Paraphrase

Example (H):

Studies show that when we read about fictional characters, we become better at interacting with actual people.

Original:

It is an exercise that hones our real-life social skills, another body of research suggests. Dr. Oatley and Dr. Man, in collaboration with several other scientists, reported in two studies.

- You must cite if you refer to INFORMATION (facts, statistics, examples) or IDEAS you found in a source, even if you use your own words.
- You can do this in a PARAPHRASE, which takes the source’s ideas and expresses them in your words, without making the passage significantly shorter.
When to Cite

When in doubt, use a citation!
Help is out there...

The Library can help you with:

- Choosing or narrowing your topic
- Finding sources
- Evaluating credibility of sources
- MLA and APA citation format

Luria Library Hours: M-Th 7:30-10pm, F 7:30-4:30, Sat 12-5, Sun 10-10

The Writing Center can help you with:

- Assignment analysis
- Thesis development and outlining
- Organizing research information
- Integrating quotations into paper
- MLA and APA citation format

Writing Center Hours: M-Th 9-7, Fri 9-3
Upcoming CLRC Workshops

- Writing Skills Workshops:
  - MLA Citation—Monday, April 22\textsuperscript{nd}
  - APA Citation—Thursday, April 26\textsuperscript{th}

- Learning Skills Workshops:
  - Learning Styles—Thursday, April 18\textsuperscript{th}
  - Math Confidence—Thursday, May 2\textsuperscript{nd}
  - Stress Management—Thursday, May 16\textsuperscript{th}
Thank you

Dr. Jerry Pike, CLRC Director pike@sbcc.edu
Nina Mahaffey, CLRC Supervisor mahaffey@sbcc.edu
Beth Taylor-Schott, WCenter Coordinator EATaylorScho@sbcc.edu
Ellen Carey, Reference & Instruction Librarian eecarey@sbcc.edu
Michelle Detorie, WCenter Coordinator mmdetorie@sbcc.edu
Sally Chuah, Reference & Instruction Librarian SSChuah@sbcc.edu
Sources

- OWL at Purdue for when not to cite