Video Citation Guidelines
Overview of Source Types with Sample Citations

Just as with writing a paper, materials used to construct an argument or build a story in a video needs to be cited. Both when the information is referenced during the video and in the end in a bibliography it is important to state where information comes from so others can refer to the original source. This differs from crediting photographs, music and video clips when they are used as a stylistic element in a video. When citing a source in a video it can be described orally at point of use in the video or via text overlay on the screen. When displaying a graphic or a dataset, the reference to the source of the data should be inserted as a text overlay on the image.

In a video, in addition to the information sources that are cited in the “text” and again in the bibliography at the end, stylistic elements such as photos, music, and video clips which are included for visual interest and do not contribute to the argument or story are referenced in the credits at the end.

When orally citing keep these guidelines in mind:

BOOK
Citation Elements to Mention: If two or fewer authors, state first and last names, source qualifier, title, and date of publication. If three or more authors, state first and last name of first author and "coauthors."
Example: In the book 1948: The First Arab-Israeli War, published in 2008, noted Israeli historian Benny Morris claims that...
Example: In Paid to Play: An Insider's Guide to Video Game Careers, published in 2006, career counselor Alice Rush and her two coauthors, both professional game writers, wrote that...

PRINT ARTICLE
Citation Elements to Mention: Same as for "Book."
Example: In an article on honey bees published in the December 2008 edition of World Watch Magazine, science writer Sarah DeWeerdt, who specializes in biology and the environment, claims that...

ONLINE-ONLY MAGAZINE
Citation Elements to Mention: See "Book" and identify publication as "online magazine."
Example: Columnist Jacob Liebenluft, writing on laptops and battery conservation in the December 2, 2008, edition of the online magazine Slate, which is owned by the Washington Post...

WEB SITE
Citation Elements to Mention: Name the Web site, source qualifier, section of Web site cited (if applicable), and last update.
Example: On its Web site, last updated September 10, 2006, the Society of Interventional Radiology explains that radio waves are harmless to healthy cells...

WEBLOG
Citation Elements to Mention: Name the blogger, source qualifier, affiliated Web site (if applicable), and date of posting.
Example: In a December 18, 2008, blog posting on TechPresident.com, a group blog that investigates how political candidates use the Web for campaigning, Patrick Ruffini, former eCampaign Director of the RNC notes that...

Adapted from Dan O'Hair, Hannah Rubenstein, and Rob Stewart, A Pocket Guide to Public Speaking. 2nd Ed. (New York: Bedford/St. Martin’s, 2010), 88-89.
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TELEVISION OR RADIO PROGRAM
Citation Elements to Mention: Name the program, segment, reporter, source qualifier, and date aired.
Example: Jim Lehrer, National Public Television’s Newshour host, described in a segment on the auto industry aired on June 2, 2010...

ONLINE VIDEO
Citation Elements to Mention: Name the online video source, program, segment, source qualifier, and date aired (if applicable).
Example: In a session on mindfulness delivered on the Google campus on November 12, 2007, and broadcast on YouTube, Jon Kabat-Zinn, scientist, author, and founding director of the Stress Reduction Clinic...

TESTIMONY (LAY OR EXPERT)
Citation Elements to Mention: Name the person, source qualifier, context in which information was offered, and date information was offered.
Example: On July 8, 2004, in Congressional testimony before the U.S. House Subcommittee on Human Rights and Wellness, Derek Ellerman (co-executive director of the Polaris Project) said...

PERSONAL INTERVIEW
Citation Elements to Mention: Name the person, source qualifier, and date of interview.
Example: In an interview I conducted last week, Tim Zeutenhorst, Chairman of the Orange City Area Health System Board, at Orange City Hospital in Iowa, said...

PHOTOGRAPHS
Citation Elements to Mention: Name the photographer, date of photograph, and title of photograph.
Example: In a photograph taken by Dorothea Lange in February 1936 titled “Destitute pea pickers in California... Mother of seven children... Age 32” we see a young woman...

MUSIC
Citation Elements to Mention: Composer, title of song, title of album (if appropriate), band/performer name, date of creation
Example: In the song Born This Way co-written and performed by Lady Gaga on the 2011 album of the same name she addresses her fans...

At the end of the video you’ll include credits for photos, music and video clips you didn’t create yourself. There are no standards around format but in general it is necessary to include a Title or Description and a credit line indicating the original creator.

Following the credits insert your bibliography following a format like APA or MLA. More information on this can be found on the library’s Citation Help page.

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