Comparative Literature Style Guide


Comparative Literature Style Sheet

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Acknowledgments are made in the first person and appear as a first unnumbered footnote on the first page of the article.

CONTRIBUTOR’S NOTE

CL articles do not include a contributor’s note. The author’s academic affiliation is given at the end of the article.

EMPHASIS

If italics are added to a quoted passage for emphasis, the passage must be followed by “(emphasis mine)” or “(emphasis added).” The author does not need to indicate “(emphasis in original)” when italics appear in the original extract.

EPIGRAPHS

CL only allows epigraphs at the beginning of the essay, not before sections. Epigraphs must be directly referred to or analyzed in the body of the essay unless they are in the public domain or the author has obtained permission to use them.

FOOTNOTES

All footnotes (typed as endnotes in the manuscript) must be discursive (that is, not limited to documenting a source or sources). They should be limited in number and typically include relevant material that cannot conveniently be included in the text. Any material central to the main argument of the essay should be included in the text.

SECTION HEADINGS (SUBHEADS)

CL allows two types of breaks in essays: section breaks with subheads; and section breaks indicated by three asterisks. Subheads are set in boldface. The first paragraph after a subhead is indented.

TRANSLATIONS
All passages in languages other than English should be accompanied by a translation. If the translations are the author’s own, that fact should be indicated in a footnote; if from a published source, that source should be identified and included in the list of Works Cited.

**Block Quotations**
The original should appear first, with the source for the original in parentheses after the final period of the quotation. The English translation, with source cited the same way, should always come second.

**Translations within the Text**
If the translation is the author’s own:

“original version of the quotation” (source of the quotation; English translation of the quotation). There should be no quotation marks surrounding the English translation.

For example,

Céline even compares Proust’s style to the Talmud: both are “tortueux, arabescoïde, mosaïque désordonnée” (180; tortuous, arabescoid, a chaotic mosaic).

If the translation is from another source:

“original version of the quotation” (source of the quotation; “English translation of the quotation,” source of the translation). In this case the English translation is enclosed in quotation marks.

For example,

The narrator explains: “progenuit tellus ignotum nomine Ligdum, / ingenua de plebe virum; nec census in illo / nobilitate sua maior” (9:670–72; “Though the son / of humble parents, Ligdus was freeborn. / And like his lineage, his property / Was modest,” Mandelbaum 316).
Duke University Press Journals Style Guide
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ABBREVIATIONS

Corporate, municipal, national, and supranational abbreviations and acronyms appear in full caps. Most initialisms (abbreviations pronounced as strings of letters) are preceded by the. Always use US as an adjective and United States as a noun.

- further expansion of NATO’s membership
- dissent within the AFL-CIO
- sexism is rampant at IBM
- certain US constituencies

Spell out Latin abbreviations such as i.e., e.g., and etc. in the text, though allow abbreviations within parentheses in the text. Allow abbreviations in notes. When used, these abbreviations are set in roman type, not italics. The word sic, however, is italicized.

Personal initials have periods and are spaced.

- W. E. B. Du Bois; C. D. Wright

ABSTRACTS

Substantial articles should include an abstract of approximately 200 words. Book reviews and short issue introductions do not require abstracts.

Abstracts should be written in the third person (“This article proposes . . .”), not the first person (“I propose . . .”).

CAPITALIZATION. See also SPELLING AND HYPHENATION

See CMS, chap. 8, for general guidance on capitalization.

In Romance and other languages, use diacritics with capital letters.
After a Colon
If the material introduced by a colon consists of more than one sentence, or if it is a quotation or a speech in dialogue, it should begin with a capital letter. Otherwise, it begins with a lowercase letter. See CMS 6.63.

Quotations
Silently correct initial capitalization in quotations depending on the relationship of the quotation to the rest of the sentence (see CMS 13.19). For instance:

Smith stated that “we must carefully consider all aspects of the problem.”

but

Smith stated, “We must carefully consider all aspects of the problem.”

A lowercase letter following a period plus an ellipsis should be capitalized if it begins a grammatically complete sentence (CMS 13.53).

The spirit of our American radicalism is destructive. . . . The conservative movement . . . is timid, and merely defensive of property.

Terms
A down (lowercase) style is generally preferred for terms. See CMS, chap. 8, for detailed guidelines on capitalization of terms.

Titles of Works
For titles in English, capitalize the first and last words and all nouns, pronouns, adjectives, verbs, adverbs, and subordinating conjunctions (if, because, that, etc.). Lowercase articles (a, an, the), coordinating conjunctions, and prepositions (regardless of length). The to in infinitives and the word as in any function are lowercased.

For hyphenated and open compounds in titles in English, capitalize first elements; subsequent elements are capitalized unless they are articles, prepositions, or coordinating conjunctions. Subsequent elements attached to prefixes are lowercased unless they are proper nouns. The second element of hyphenated spelled-out numbers or simple fractions should be capitalized. If a compound (other than one with a hyphenated prefix) comes at the end of the title, its final element is always capitalized.

Nineteenth-Century Literature
Avoiding a Run-In
Policies on Re-creation
Reading the Twenty-Third Psalm

When titles contain direct quotations, the headline-capitalization style described above and in CMS should be imposed.
“We All Live More like Brutes than Humans”: Labor and Capital in the Gold Rush

In capitalizing titles in any non-English language, including French, capitalize the first letter of the title and subtitle and all proper nouns. See CMS 11.70 and 11.39 for the treatment of Dutch and German titles, respectively. Diacritical marks on capital letters are retained in all languages.

CONTRIBUTOR’S NOTE

Each contributor’s note includes the author’s name, rank, affiliation, areas of activity or research, and most recent works. Dates of publication, but not publishers’ names, are given for books.

Rebecca Newman is professor of history at the University of Chicago. She is author of In the Country of the Last Emperor (1991).

Yingjin Zhang teaches Chinese literature at Indiana University. His book Configurations of the City in Modern Chinese Literature is forthcoming.

DATES AND TIMES. See also NUMBERS

For more information, see CMS 9.29–38.

May 1968
May 1, 1968
May 1–3, 1968
on February 8, 1996, at 8:15 a.m. and again at 6:15 p.m.
September–October 1992
from 1967 to 1970
1960s counterculture; sixties [not 60s or ’60s] counterculture
the 1980s and 1990s
mid-1970s American culture
the mid-nineteenth century [note hyphen, not en dash]
the late twentieth century; late twentieth-century Kenya
the years 1896–1900, 1900–1905, 1906–9, 1910–18
“The Audacity of His Enterprise: Louis Riel and the Métis Nation That Canada Never Was, 1840–1875” [use full year range in titles of works and headings]
AD 873; the year 640 BC; Herod Antipas (21 BCE–39 CE) [use full caps without periods for era designations]
ca. 1820
EXTRACTS. See also CAPITALIZATION and PUNCTUATION (Ellipses)

Set off quotations that are more than 400 characters (including spaces) in length.

FIGURES AND TABLES

Each figure or table should be referred to either parenthetically (figure is abbreviated as fig. when referenced parenthetically) or in running text at a relevant place in the discussion. Number tables and figures consecutively.

The pressure of the flow repeatedly threatened to break down the walls that had just been created by cooling (fig. 3).

As figure 1 shows, our labor took the form of designing supported experiences for GTAs.

The problem with school attendance in the Bronx (see table 1) is largely the fault of a social system that neglects its children.

Figure Captions

Captions take sentence-style capitalization and have terminal punctuation. If credit or source information is provided, it should be the last element of the caption.

Figure 1. The author with unidentified friend, 1977.

Figure 2. The author posed for this picture with an unidentified friend in 1977.

Figure 3. Noam Chomsky at a political rally, 1971. Courtesy of John Allan Cameron Archives, University of Florida, Gainesville.

Figure 4. Coal miners in Matewan, West Virginia, April 1920. The miners’ strike was depicted in John Sayles’s film Matewan. Photograph courtesy of Matewan Historical Society.

Figure 5. Winston Roberts, When Last I Saw (1893). Oil on canvas, 56 × 48 in. Courtesy of the Campbell Collection, Central State Community College Library, Pleasance, Nebraska.

Figure 6. Harvey Nit, These. These? Those! (2011). Mascara on cocktail napkin, 16 × 16 cm. © Harvey Nit.

Table Titles

Table titles take sentence-style capitalization but do not have terminal punctuation.

Table 3. Comparative frequency of bicycles, mopeds, and Segways in Amsterdam, Dublin, and Toronto, 2005–2015

GRAMMAR

A split infinitive is OK if the text reads better with a split infinitive.
Make a distinction between *that* (restrictive) and *which* (nonrestrictive) but not obsessively (i.e., if making the distinction means that there will be several *ths* in a row, allow a restrictive *which*).

Maintain parallel structure.

Maintain subject-verb agreement and tense consistency.

**INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE**

Avoid sexist language and terms that are gender specific (*chairman, mankind*, etc.). Use gender-neutral alternatives, including recasting to plural or using singular *they*, rather than *he* or *she* constructions. Never allow the form *s/he*. Avoid alternating the use of masculine and feminine pronouns in an article. See CMS 5.251–60 (bias-free language), especially 5.255–56, and 5.48 (singular *they*).

However, there may be times when the generic masculine pronoun or gendered language is appropriate or preferred by the author: for example, in discussions of works of philosophy in which the original author used *he, him, man*, and the like generically, or if the article’s author intentionally uses female pronouns exclusively or uses alternative pronouns such as *ze*.

**INITIALS.** See ABBREVIATIONS

**KEYWORDS.** See also ABSTRACTS

Articles that include an abstract should also include three to five keywords. Keywords should be lowercase (except for names or titles that would otherwise be capitalized) and separated by commas.

*Keywords* negative affect, self-portrait, Del LaGrace Volcano, intersex, Polaroid photography

**NOTES.** See also the section on documentation below.

Avoid callouts for footnotes or endnotes in article titles, in heads, at the ends of epigraphs, or in figure captions.

Wherever possible, place note callouts at the end of a sentence, or at least at the end of a clause.

Callouts for footnotes in tables are handled separately. Each table has its own set of notes. See the journal’s style sheet for guidance on the format used for callouts (e.g., lowercase letters, numerals, or symbols). See also CMS 3.79.
NUMBERS. See also DATES AND TIMES

Cardinal and ordinal whole numbers from one to ninety-nine (and such numbers followed by *hundred, thousand, million, billion*, etc.), any number at the beginning of a sentence, and common fractions are spelled out. Common fractions are hyphenated as well. See CMS, chap. 9.

no fewer than six of the eight victims
One hundred eighty-seven people were put to death there during the twenty-third century BC.
attendance was about ninety thousand
at least two-thirds of the electorate
there were two million ballots cast
the population will top between 27.5 and 28 billion

Numbers applicable to the same category, however, are treated alike in the same context.

no fewer than 6 of the 113 victims
Almost twice as many people voted Republican in the 115th precinct as in the 23rd.

Numbers that express decimal quantities, dollar amounts, and percentages are written as figures.

an average of 2.6 years
now estimated at 1.1 billion inhabitants
more than $56, or 8 percent of the petty cash
a decline of $0.30 per share

Inclusive page numbers are given as follows (per CMS 9.61):

1–2, 3–11, 74–75, 100–103, 104–9, 112–15, 414–532, 505–16, 600–612, 1499–1501

Roman numerals are used in the pagination of preliminary matter in books, in family names and the names of monarchs and other leaders in a succession, in the names of world wars, in legal instruments, and in the titles of certain sequels.

On page iii Bentsen sets out his agenda.
Neither John D. Rockefeller IV, Elizabeth II, nor John Paul II was born before World War I.
Yet Title XII was meant to rectify not only inequities but iniquities.
Most critics consider *The Godfather, Part II* a better movie than *Jaws 2*. [Follow the usage in the original work, per CMS 9.43.]

Arabic numerals are used for the parts of books.

In part 2, chapter 2, of volume 11 of the *Collected Works*, our assumptions are overturned.

**POSSESSIVES**

The possessive of nouns ending with the letter *s* are formed by adding an apostrophe and an *s* (CMS 7.17).

- Burns’s poetry
- Camus’s novels
- Descartes’s philosophy
- Euripides’s plays
- Jesus’s name

**PUNCTUATION**

**En and Em Dashes**

See CMS 6.75–92. Use real en and em dashes to indicate en and em dashes in the manuscript.

- 115–36
- post–Civil War era
- The United States’ hegemony—that is, its domination of other nations—is increasing.

**Ellipses. See also CAPITALIZATION (Quotations)**

Three dots indicate an ellipsis within a sentence or fragment; a period plus three dots indicates an ellipsis between grammatically complete sentences, even when the end of the first sentence in the original source has been omitted. In general, ellipses are not used at the start of a quotation (whether it begins with a grammatically complete sentence or not) or at the end of a quotation (if it ends with a grammatically complete sentence), unless the ellipses serve a definite purpose. See CMS 13.50–58 for more detailed guidelines on the use of ellipses.
Hyphens. See SPELLING AND HYPHENATION

QUOTATIONS. See EXTRACTS

RACIAL AND ETHNIC TERMS

Capitalize terms used to identify people of color or of historically marginalized origins (e.g., Black, Indigenous). As a rule, do not capitalize terms used to identify people outside these groups (e.g., white). Do not capitalize of color constructions (e.g., people of color, women of color). Exceptions are allowed if the author insists or if the author’s text would be, in the editor’s view and with the author’s concurrence, well served by alternative treatment. The list that follows is intended to be illustrative, not comprehensive.

Aborigine, Aboriginal
BIPOC [Black, Indigenous, and People of Color]
Black, Blackness, anti-Black, anti-Blackness
Brown
First Nations
Indigenous, Indigeneity
Native
white, whiteness

SPELLING AND HYPHENATION

Follow the online Merriam-Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary (https://www.merriam-webster.com) and Webster’s Third New International Dictionary for spelling. If more than one spelling is provided in the dictionary, follow the first form given (e.g., judgment, not judgement; focused, not focussed).

For further guidance regarding the hyphenation of compound words, see CMS 7.89.

Common foreign terms are set in roman type. (Common foreign terms are defined as those with main entries and not classified as “foreign term” in Webster’s.)

Prefixes are hyphenated before numerals and proper nouns. Otherwise, prefixes are generally not hyphenated before words; refer to Webster’s for guidance. Temporary compound adjectives are hyphenated before the noun to avoid ambiguity but are left open after the noun. Non-English phrases used as modifiers are open in any position, unless hyphenated in the original.

Put neologisms within quotation marks at first use.
A term referred to as the term itself is italicized.

In the twentieth century socialism acquired many meanings.

The word hermeneutics is the most overused term in recent monographs.

The term lyricism was misused in Smith’s book review.

TABLES. See FIGURES AND TABLES and NOTES

TRANSLATIONS. See also the section on documentation below.

Non-English Titles with English Translation
When an original non-English title and its translation appear together in the text, the first version (whether original or translation) takes the form of an original title, and the second version is always enclosed in parentheses and treated like a published title (whether or not the work represents a published translation; contra CMS 11.9) with title capitalization appropriate to the language.

I read Mi nombre es Roberto (My Name Is Roberto) in 1989.
I read My Name Is Roberto (Mi nombre es Roberto) in 1989.

Rubén Darío’s poem “Azul” (“Blue”) is one of my favorites.
Rubén Darío’s poem “Blue” (“Azul”) is one of my favorites.

URLs. See also the section on documentation below.

Use complete URLs when they appear in articles (notes, references, and main text). Include the protocol (https or http) and trailing slash (if it is part of the URL). DOIs appearing in notes and reference lists are presented as complete URLs. See CMS 14:10 for advice on shortening excessively long URLs.

https://doi.org/10.1215/00982601-9467191
https://georgianpapers.com/research-funding/transcription/
DOCUMENTATION

Citing Sources in the Text
Quotations and references in the text and endnotes are followed by parenthetical citations (as detailed in MLA, chap. 6); a works cited list appears at the end of each article. Every work cited in the text must appear on the list of works cited, which is organized alphabetically.

Parenthetical citations usually need only the author’s last name (if it is not indicated by the text) and the page number of the reference.

These underlying imperatives have compelled the bourgeoisie to “give its ideas the form of universality” (Sartre 234).

Sartre explains that these underlying imperatives have compelled the bourgeoisie to “give its ideas the form of universality” (234).

When several works by a single author are under discussion or are cited at the same time in an article, parenthetical citations also contain the first substantial word of the title.

“The first presupposition of human history is naturally the existence of living human individuals” (Marx, Werke 20; my translation). [Note use of semicolon to separate phrases such as “my translation” or “my emphasis.” Emphasis in quoted material is assumed to match the original source unless otherwise stated; omit notes such as “original emphasis.”]

If a work is published in more than one volume, the parenthetical citation contains both volume and page number, as (2: 538–89). If citations come from more than one place in a text, their page numbers are separated by a comma: (56, 87–88). Citations to multiple works are separated with semicolons: (Anger 135; Evans 216–17).

The notations f. (ff.), ibid., op. cit., and loc. cit. are not used, nor are eadem, idem, infra, passim, and supra. Commonly used abbreviations include cf., ed. (eds.), e.g., esp., et al., etc., fig. (figs.), fol. (fols.), i.e., n. (nn.), p. (pp.), pt. (pts.), ser., trans., vol. (vols.). Latin abbreviations are not italicized. Note that in et al., et is a whole word (meaning “and”) and therefore is not followed by a period. In references to poetry, where the abbreviation “I.” or “II.” might be mistaken for a numeral, the word “line” or “lines” is spelled out.

The reference list at the end of the article contains only works cited. References are arranged alphabetically by author, with multiple works by the same author arranged alphabetically by title. For multiple references by the same author, the author’s name is repeated; 3-em dashes are not used. In titles of works, serial commas are added,
Sample References

**BOOK**

Langford, Gerald. *Faulkner’s Revision of “Absalom, Absalom!”: A Collation of the Manuscript and the Published Book*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1971. [A book title within a book title is quoted and italicized (CMS 14.94). A main title ending in an exclamation point or a question mark is followed by a colon only if the question mark or exclamation point appears within quotation marks (CMS 14.96).]


Smith, John. *All Tongue-Tied and Nowhere to Go; or, How to Save Face When They Put You on the Spot*. Vail, CO: Slippery Slopes, 2011. [Treatment of double titles, contra the preferred form in CMS 8.167]

**E-BOOK**


**CHAPTER**


Weinstein, Donald. “*The Art of Dying Well* and Popular Piety in the Preaching and Thought of Girolamo Savonarola.” In Tetel, Witt, and Goffen 88–104. [A shortened form is used for chapters from collections that are also included in the reference list.]

**PREFATORY MATTER**


**EDITED WORK**


REPRINT

Williams, Theodore. *The Art of Porcelain during the Late Ming Dynasty*. 1905; repr., New York: Grove, 1974. [The date of first publication is followed by the facts of publication for the reprint edition (CMS 14.114).]

TRANSLATION


FOREIGN-LANGUAGE WORK

Dachuan, Sun. *Jiujiu jiuyici* (*One Last Cup of Wine*). Taipei: Zhang Laoshi Chubanshe, 1991. [This form is recommended for works in languages relatively unfamiliar to the journal’s expected readership. The translated title uses italics and headline capitalization (contra CMS 11.9)—in other words, it is treated as if it named a published translation even if it does not.]

MULTIVOLUME WORK

Hooker, Joseph. *Of the Laws of Ecclesiastical Polity*. Edited by Georges Edelen, W. Speed Hill, P. G. Stanwood, and John E. Booty. 4 vols. Cambridge, MA: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1977–82. [If there are ten editors or fewer, all are listed by name; if more than ten, the first is listed by name, followed by “et al.” (CMS 14.76).]

MULTIAUTHOR WORK

Gustafson, Albert K., Jonas Edwards, Ezra Best, and Nathan Wise. *If I Were a Rich Man: Comparative Studies of Urban and Rural Poverty*. Murphy, WI: Fore and Aft, 1985. [If there are ten authors or fewer, all are listed by name in a reference; if more than ten, the first is listed by name, followed by “et al.” (CMS 14.76).]

ANONYMOUS WORK. See also UNSIGNED ARTICLE

*A True and Sincere Declaration of the Purpose and Ends of the Plantation Begun in Virginia, of the Degrees Which It Hath Received, and Means by Which It Hath Been Advanced*. London, 1610. [The title appears in place of the author; “Anonymous” or “Anon.” is not used. For purposes of alphabetization an initial article is ignored (CMS 14.79).]

UNDATED WORK


**REFERENCE WORK**


**JOURNAL ARTICLE, PRINT**

Meban, David. “Temple Building, *Primus* Language, and the Proem to Virgil’s Third *Georgic*.” *Classical Philology* 103, no. 2 (2008): 150–74. [Journal published in volumes; the month or season is not required. As a courtesy to readers who consult articles online, issue numbers should be given if available.]


**JOURNAL ARTICLE, ONLINE**


Jovanovic, Boyan, and Peter L. Rousseau. “Specific Capital and Technological Variety.” *Journal of Human Capital* 2, no. 2 (2008): 129–52. https://doi.org/10.1086/590066. [If the author has provided a DOI rather than a URL, use the DOI in URL form, as indicated here. See CMS 14.8.]

**REVIEW**


**SPECIAL ISSUE, and ARTICLE IN SPECIAL ISSUE**


**MAGAZINE ARTICLE**

NEWSPAPER ARTICLE, PRINT


NEWSPAPER ARTICLE, ONLINE


UNSIGNED ARTICLE


DISSERTATION


PAPER OR PRESENTATION


PERSONAL COMMUNICATION OR INTERVIEW

Noah Fence (pers. comm., April 1, 2014) speculated on the pitfalls of having a play on words for a name. [References to such communications as emails or private messages shared on social media often can be run in to the text, without need of note or reference (CMS 14.214).]

24. Jacques Petits Fours (provost, Upper Midwestern University), interview by author, Ames, IA, February 20, 1995. [Interviews or other personal communications in which more information than the date is pertinent may appear in a note (CMS 14.214).]

NOTE


SOCIAL MEDIA CONTENT

[Citations of social media content may contain such elements as the author of the post; the title, or the text, of the post; the type of post (e.g., the service and/or a brief description); the date; and a URL. Contra CMS 14.209, such citations have corresponding references.]


O’Brien, Conan (@ConanOBrien). “In honor of Earth Day, I’m recycling my tweets.”
Twitter, April 22, 2015, 11:10 a.m.
https://twitter.com/ConanOBrien/status/590940792967016448.

Souza, Pete (@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.

WEBSITES (OTHER THAN ONLINE PUBLICATIONS)

[Include as much of the following information as possible: author of the content, title of the page (if there is one), title or owner of the site, URL, and access date (if no publication date is provided). The titles of websites and blogs generally use headline-style capitalization. See CMS 8.191 and 14.206 for guidance as to whether such titles should be set in roman type or italicized. Websites and social media postings are cited in notes but are not included in the reference list. Items resembling articles in form, such as blog postings, are cited in notes and also included in the reference list.]


Citing Works Whose Authors Have Changed Names

Sometimes, a cited author’s affirmed name differs from the name on the work cited. In these cases, use the author’s affirmed name when discussing their published work in the text of an article or book. We also recommend using the affirmed name in citations:

**Text/note discussion** As {Affirmed name} wrote, “Quote from cited author.”

However, if it is known that a cited author would like citations to their work to use the name on the publication, use the published name in the citation instead:

**Text/note discussion** As {Affirmed name} wrote, “Quote from cited author.”
**Bibliographical citation** {Name on publication: Last, First}. _Title: Subtitle_. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 1995.
In cases where the author deems it appropriate to include both names in a reference list item, we recommend listing the affirmed name first, followed in brackets by the name under which the work was originally published: