

Guide to Proper Paper Citations¹

Irfan Nooruddin

Department of Political Science

The Ohio State University

The cardinal rule of writing research papers is *Cite Everything*. Remember this and you should have no problems with me in regards to plagiarism or other violations of the Code of Academic Conduct.

On the footnote...

“[Footnotes] are the humanist’s rough equivalent of the scientist’s report on data: they offer the empirical support for stories told and arguments presented. Without them, historical theses can be admired or resented, but they cannot be verified or disproved.”

-- Anthony Grafton. 1997. *The Footnote: A Curious History*. Harvard University Press, vii.

There are two fundamental rules: (1) You must indicate a citation when you use a source in the text of the paper itself. Merely appending a blanket list of bibliographic citations at the end of the paper will not suffice. (2) There must be a full bibliography with all the relevant information for each source that you use.

What do you include in a bibliography?

ANY SOURCE you used to get information for your paper: interviews, books, magazines, other publications (pamphlets, handouts, newsletters), the Internet, videos, audiotapes, etc. If it is cited in the text, it should be included in the bibliography. However, if you used materials to generate ideas but did not cite them in the text, they must still be included in your bibliography.

What do you cite in the Text?

When writing any paper, you must document your sources in the text (through footnotes or parenthetical citations) in order to let readers know where your information came from and to give credit to the original authors whose words and ideas you have borrowed. *To borrow another’s words and ideas without acknowledgment is cheating or plagiarism*. More importantly from an intellectual point of view, footnotes play a vital role in the pursuit of knowledge. They provide future researchers with road signs and starting points for continuing work. To avoid any hint of plagiarism, you must cite all quotations, summaries and paraphrases as well as any facts and ideas that are not common knowledge.²

What form should you use?

I do not like end-notes since I find them particularly inconvenient for ready reference. Reserve the use of footnotes (see footnote 1 below for an example) for substantive comments only. All research citations

¹ Department of Political Science, The Ohio State University, 2140 Derby Hall, 154 N. Oval Mall, Columbus, OH 43210-1373. © Irfan Nooruddin, 2003.

²What exactly constitutes "common knowledge" is best determined by resorting to common sense. Remember that you are writing for an audience. If something might be "common knowledge" to you but not to your reader then you have an obligation to provide a citation so that a curious reader would know where to go find out the information for herself.

should be parenthetical (APA) within the body of the text. Examples of in-text citation are on the next page:

Extract from Chhibber and Nooruddin. 2004. “Do Party Systems Matter?” Manuscript.

In this paper we focus on the influence of party systems on the governance of the Indian states, especially in the extent of the problem of order, the maintenance of which by any account is a key function of a state, and the ability of state governments to deliver public goods. Some Indian states, such as Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, face a larger problem of order than others like Madhya Pradesh. Similarly the governments of Madhya Pradesh have more successfully provided public goods than those of either Bihar or Uttar Pradesh. What explains these differences? In the study of India, and in comparative politics more generally, conventional explanations for such variation in governance include sociological factors such as preexisting social cleavages (Frankel and Rao, 1987; Bing Powell 1982), economic deprivation or inequality (Londregan and Poole 1993; Alesina and Perotti 1996), cultural aspects as in Putnam’s (1993) social capital thesis on Italy or Varshney’s (2001) depiction of Hindu-Muslim violence in parts of India, institutional analysis (Huntington 1968; Kohli 1990) or soft-state arguments (Myrdal 1968; Herring 1999; Rudolph and Rudolph 1987).

The variation in governance across states in India, we argue, is largely a consequence of the differences in the party systems across the states. Despite similar electoral laws the Indian states do not share similar party system. Two-party systems are found in some states whereas others have multi-party competition. Not only do party systems differ across the states but also the number of parties that are competitive in state elections also varies within a state. This variation in party systems, we argue, accounts for the divergence in the levels of governance both across states and within a state over time. Party systems influence not only the problem of order but also public goods provided by state governments. Using both macro-economic indicators as well as voter surveys, we demonstrate that states with two-party competition have fewer riots and provide more public goods than states with multi-party competition. This approach differs from much of the most vibrant work in contemporary political economy, which has focused on the relationship of particular political parties rather than party systems to government performance (Hibbs 1977; Alesina 1987; Alesina et al. 1999; Kohno and Nishizawa 1987; Boix 1998).

Finally, articles and books used and cited in your research paper must be listed with full publication information in your bibliography. For proper citation format, please consult the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, Fourth Edition, Appendix 3-A, pp. 189-222.