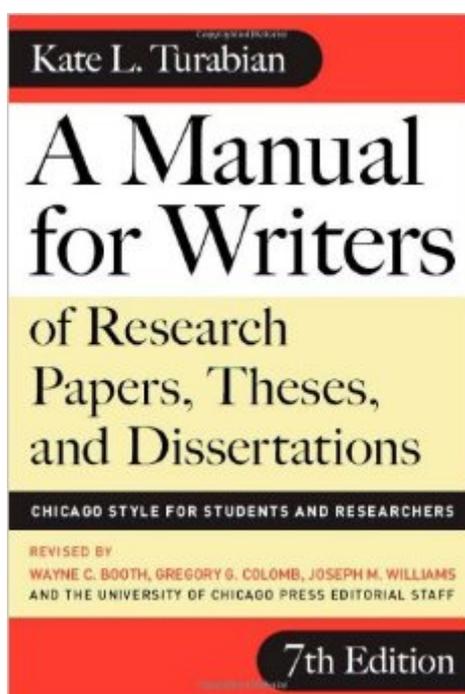


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# A Manual For Writers Of Research Papers, Theses, And Dissertations, Seventh Edition: Chicago Style For Students And Researchers (Chicago Guides To Writing, Editing, And Publishing)



## Synopsis

Dewey, Bellow, Strauss, Friedman--the University of Chicago has been the home of some of the most important thinkers of the modern age. But perhaps no name has been spoken with more respect than Turabian. The dissertation secretary at Chicago for decades, Kate L. Turabian literally wrote the book on the successful completion and submission of the student paper. Her *Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, created from her years of experience with research projects across all fields, has sold more than seven million copies since it was first published in 1937. Now, with this seventh edition, "Turabian's Manual" has undergone its most extensive revision, ensuring that it will remain the most valuable handbook for writers at every level--from first-year undergraduates, to dissertation writers apprehensively submitting final manuscripts, to senior scholars who may be old hands at research and writing but less familiar with new media citation styles. Gregory G. Colomb, Joseph M. Williams, and the late Wayne C. Booth--the gifted team behind *The Craft of Research*--and the University of Chicago Press Editorial Staff combined their wide-ranging expertise to remake this classic resource. They preserve Turabian's clear and practical advice while fully embracing the new modes of research, writing, and source citation brought about by the age of the Internet.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The 7th edition of Kate L. Turabian's *A Manual for Writers* features significant new material, a more user-friendly arrangement, much-needed rules for online resources, and an eye-friendly, two-tone

typeset format. Editors Booth, Colomb, and Williams have adapted material from their *The Craft of Research* and inserted it as Part I of the 7th edition. Researchers now get both a style guide and a research guide in one book. The three-part format for the 7th edition also makes it easier to navigate. Part I is the new research guide; Part II is the rules for source citation; Part III is the style guide. In the 6th edition, the first chapter was a guide to the parts of a research paper which then had to be compared to the formats and sample layouts in the last chapter. The new edition combines all this material together in Appendix A along with instructions that are updated to reflect common word processor settings. And the index at the back of the volume now references items by page number rather than chapter and section, a great improvement in my opinion. The 7th edition brings Turabian up-to-date by including rules and examples for citing online sources. Part II also separates the instructions for notes/bibliography style from the instructions for parenthetical/reference list style. What had been a completely separate chapter for citing public documents is now helpfully included with the rest of the citation rules. Part II of edition 7 now includes over 100 pages of citation examples compared to the 26 pages in chapter 11 of the 6th edition. One weakness that is not corrected in the new edition is that Turabian's official stance for encyclopedias and other reference works is still that they should only be cited in notes. (17.5.3, p.191) Nothing acknowledges the difficulties of citing scholarly encyclopedia or dictionary references where signed articles are the norm. One can, however, adapt the instructions for edited collections on p.179 to sufficiently cite academic reference works. Finally, the blue-and-black typesetting makes it much easier to distinguish in-text examples and to move one's eye from section to section. It is fitting that the 7th edition has been published on the 20th anniversary of Kate Turabian's death. The many improvements in this edition will ensure its place on student bookshelves for years to come.

I have owned the Sixth Edition of Turabian for about five years and it has been used to the point of disintegration. I was excited about the new edition and when I received it I was elated to find that the Chicago Style Manual was included with the writer's manual. The editors have updated the manual to include citation of electronic sources which, if you have been doing any academic writing recently, has been a matter of preference. The two-color printing makes section headings easier to find as you are leafing through the pages. The editors have included a bibliography divided into various disciplines that provides some suggestions for further research. Overall, I am enjoying using the new manual. The biggest downside is that I am having to relearn the section headings that I have grown familiar with over the past five years. Small price to pay for the added advantage of having

the Chicago Style Manual at my fingertips. Nerds, do yourselves a favor and update your Turabian manual. You won't be sorry.

I upgraded to the 8th edition after my 7th edition was completely worn out- too much use. The 8th is more concise and easy to use as well as includes more citation information for electronic sources, etc.

I purchased this edition of Turabian as a Kindle book. I own several earlier editions in paper but needed a more current one to match references from an editor. The update is good in terms addressing several modern reference techniques in bibliography and footnote format. But the Kindle edition is difficult to navigate to the extent that it is nearly useless. If you do not need to use Turabian, count yourself lucky. If you are forced to use it, then purchase a paper copy.

Students and Scholars have struggled with the Sixth edition of Kate Turabian's *Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. . . for many years. It was out of date within a couple of years of publication and the new *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, Seventh Edition: Chicago Style for Students and Researchers (Chicago Guides to Writing, Editing, and Publishing)* brings much needed help in many areas. For example, while the Sixth edition only began to pay attention to online resources which were just coming into play in a serious way, this new edition gives every type of electronic resource the attention it needs. Users of the Sixth Edition will notice two things immediately about the new Seventh Edition. For one thing, it is much thicker. The new editors have incorporated important new material, much of it taken from their own earlier work, *The Craft of Research*, 2nd edition (*Chicago Guides to Writing, Editing, and Publishing*). There is much more help for struggling students on such matters as writing the first draft, revising, note taking, and even what to do with the paper after the professor returns it. In addition there are new sections on making an oral presentation of one's research and presenting a poster session. These changes make the book much more practical. Those who teach research courses will welcome possibility now to assign a single "does it all" type manual for student use. The second major change is that much of the material on formatting the paper, as to front matter, headings and subhead, etc. has been moved to the back of the book and expanded. This is a more natural placement, and users will find the expanded discussions helpful. Those who have struggled with the quirks of various word processors will welcome some of the changes and improvements. For one thing, one no longer needs to leave a space between dot leaders on the Table of Contents page.

This edition gives guidance on doing some of the things that computers have made possible, such as inserting tables, graphs and images into a paper. There is even a sample of a title page for a term paper (the sixth edition had only a sample of a title page for a dissertation--and Turabian's guide is used far more often to produce term papers than to produce dissertations). Much expanded tables of lists of proper abbreviations is included. Those who cite books of the Bible now have a list of abbreviations in the manual. They no longer need to go to another source for these. Users of the manual will find specific help on such matters as citing CD-ROM sources, and online journal articles. This is welcome because the types of electronic sources has multiplied greatly in the years since the publication of the sixth edition. The manual is not perfect however. There are some ambiguities. (There are always ambiguities, in every edition of Turabian's manual. The glory of this one lies in the fact that it clears up so many of the previous ambiguities; the shame is that it creates a few new ones.) For one thing, the old Turabian said that one should triple space above a subheading and simply double space below it. The current edition says to "leave an extra space above and below a subhead" (17.1). What does this mean? Triple space both? Single space the paper but double space above and below subheads? It isn't clear. Also, whereas every previous edition made it clear that papers should be written using a 12 point font, the current edition allows for a 10 or 12 point font. Where the previous editions allowed only Times New Roman or Courier New, the new edition allows for any text font "such as Times New Roman or Palatino." This recognizes the fact of today's computers being loaded with numerous fonts, but professors prefer a little more uniformity in students' papers. Finally, for some unknown reason, all the examples are in medium blue ink in a somewhat unusual font. The parentheses all look somewhat like brackets, which has already begun to confuse some students. One could wish that a more usual font such as Times New Roman had been chosen for the examples. These problems are minor, given the overall improvement over every previous edition. The new Seventh edition of Turabian's Manual will quickly become very popular with graduate students and researchers alike and will be useful for years to come, perhaps for longer than the sixth edition.

This resource is well laid out and is very user friendly. It is helping me make my citations for more current media sources. Love it!

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