

# References and bibliography: scattered advice for Econ 7000 students

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### Be consistent

- Pick one style and use it consistently
- If using LaTeX, explore bibliography function `bibtex`
- Spend time on references and bibliography; proof read paper many times
- Very easy to miss typos and errors
- Fixing errors easy but time consuming, especially once you know how things should look
- Good task to allocate to moments when you are tired, or not focussed, e.g., at the airport

### Citing papers in the text

- Pick one style and stick to it
- Standard: author name with year (and maybe pages) in parentheses
- If more than one paper by the same author, add year, or use a and b if same year
- Pay attention to space between name and parantheses!
- Examples:
  - “This approach is similar to Lagerlöf (2018).” Never write “Lagerlöf(2018)”
  - “This approach is similar to Lagerlöf (2017, 2018).”
  - “This approach is similar to Lagerlöf (2017a,b).”
  - “See Lagerlöf (2017, pp. 210-212) for a more detailed discussion.”
- If two authors, usually mention both names: “Krusell and Smith (2011)”
- If more than two authors, different approaches, e.g., “Acemoglu, Johnson and Robinson (2000)” or “Acemoglu et al. (2000)”

## What bibliography format to choose

- Look at articles published in well-ranked journals
- Different styles in different journals: no single one is more correct than all others, but some more standard than others
- Sometimes not even consistent style within one and the same journal
- Stick to well-ranked journals, e.g., the top five ones (you should know which those are by now)

## Things to pay attention to

- When citing journal articles
  - Authors' names: spelling, abbreviation of first names, separating indicators (and/comma)
    - \* Look at how authors write their own names, e.g., when citing themselves
  - Year: usually after author names; in parentheses? Commas? Be consistent!
  - Title of articles: within quotation marks (“...”), in italics, capitals, or plain text? Be consistent!
  - Name of journal: capitals, or plain? Be consistent!
  - Volume, issue? Parentheses, space? Commas? Be consistent!
- When citing working papers: usually cited in ways similar to journals
- When citing unpublished papers: mimeos, or manuscripts; usually indicate affiliation of at least one author
- When citing monographs: different format than journal articles; usually include information about the publisher (e.g., MIT Press)