Citation

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[Video](https://linnbenton.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=31b07994-b0a5-415c-8601-b01b012b5e7e&start=0)

[Slide Deck](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1CeZgGRnC8U8qPvGTvK2qLfFhWvKI5bZ7tswGunZUxnQ/edit?usp=sharing)

# Goals

In this video, we will discuss why we cite source information (both text and images), what we need to cite, and how we cite the information in our documents.

# Video

Let’s watch this video.

# Citing in Technical Writing

When you are asked to write a document, ask which citation style is appropriate for the topic and which you are expected to use. Some of the most commonly used are APA (American Psychological Association), MLA (Modern Language Association), CSE (Council of Science Editors), and CMS (Chicago Manual Style).

You also need to understand what needs to be cited and what does not. Intellectual property includes wording and information that is uniquely someone else’s: quotes, ideas, perspectives, and images. Basically, if you cannot find the same information in five or more sources, you need to cite it. If you can find it in five or more sources (and it does not include someone’s opinion), that information is considered common knowledge.

# Example

Common Knowledge: John Smith was born in 1851.

Intellectual Property: In 1851, John Smith was born into poverty, which would steer the course of the rest of his life.

If in doubt, cite the information!

# Conclusion

Citing is the way we give credit where credit is due. Anything that you find from a source, especially if it is unique to that source, needs to be cited. When choosing your citation style, ask your instructor or supervisor, or consider what field or topic you are writing about.