CONTACT THE LIBRARIAN

Dr. Jonathan L. Best
Outreach and Instruction Librarian
Library Liaison for the School of Theology and Ministry
Email: jbest@stu.edu
(O) 305-628-6587

SCRIPTURE, COMMENTARIES, AND CREEDS

**Biblical Citation**
Scripture is typically cited in the footnotes or in-text citations rather than bibliographies. Biblical books are abbreviated with the chapter and verse. Page numbers must never be used when citing from scripture. The translated version should be cited in parenthesis. Following the first instance, the version is abbreviated in parenthesis. For example:

2 Gen. 2:1 (NRSV).
3 Exod. 3:14 (New International Version).
4 Eccles. 3:4 (NIV).
5 1 John 1:1 (New Jerusalem Bible).

Abbreviations for common versions include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Version</th>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Standard Version</td>
<td>ASV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common English Bible</td>
<td>CEB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Douay-Rheims Catholic Bible</td>
<td>RHE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Standard Version</td>
<td>ESV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good News Bible</td>
<td>GNB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holman Christian Standard Bible</td>
<td>CSB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jubilee Bible</td>
<td>JUB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La Biblia de las Américas (Spanish)</td>
<td>BLA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La Biblia del Jubileo (Spanish)</td>
<td>JBS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New American Bible</td>
<td>NAB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New American Bible Revised Edition</td>
<td>NABRE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Century Version</td>
<td>NCV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New International Version</td>
<td>NIV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Jerusalem Bible</td>
<td>NJB</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New King James Version</th>
<th>NKJV</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Living Translation</td>
<td>NLT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Revised Standard Version</td>
<td>NRSV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orthodox Jewish Bible</td>
<td>OJB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revised Standard Version</td>
<td>RSV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Complete Jewish Bible</td>
<td>CJB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Message</td>
<td>MSG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World English Bible</td>
<td>WEB</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Study Bibles**

Study Bibles often include essays such as historical introductions to the Bible and the biblical world. This material should follow the format as found when citing an edited work. Include the author, essay title, name of the study bible, version, editor or editors, and publication information. For example:

**N:**


2 Meyers, “The Bible and Archaeology,” lvii-lix.

**B:**


Spell out books of the Bible in the running text. Scripture titles should be abbreviated when cited in a footnote or in parenthetical citations. Scripture titles are abbreviated or shortened as follows:

**Old Testament**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amos</td>
<td>Amos</td>
<td>Genesis</td>
<td>Gen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Chronicles</td>
<td>1 Chron.</td>
<td>Habakkuk</td>
<td>Hab.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Chronicles</td>
<td>2 Chron.</td>
<td>Haggai</td>
<td>Hag.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel</td>
<td>Dan.</td>
<td>Hosea</td>
<td>Hos.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deuteronomy</td>
<td>Deut.</td>
<td>Isaiah</td>
<td>Isa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esther</td>
<td>Esth.</td>
<td>Job</td>
<td>Job</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exodus</td>
<td>Exod.</td>
<td>Joel</td>
<td>Joel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Testament Title</td>
<td>Abbreviation</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Abbreviation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ezra</td>
<td>Ezra</td>
<td>Joshua</td>
<td>Josh.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kings</td>
<td>1 Kgs.</td>
<td>Proverbs</td>
<td>Prov.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kings</td>
<td>2 Kgs.</td>
<td>Psalms</td>
<td>Ps.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lamentations</td>
<td>Lam.</td>
<td>Ruth</td>
<td>Ruth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leviticus</td>
<td>Lev.</td>
<td>1 Samuel</td>
<td>1 Sam.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Maccabees</td>
<td>1 Macc.</td>
<td>2 Samuel</td>
<td>2 Sam.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Maccabees</td>
<td>2 Macc.</td>
<td>Sirach/Ecclesiasticus</td>
<td>Sir.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malachi</td>
<td>Mal.</td>
<td>Song of Songs</td>
<td>Song of Sg. (or Sol.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Micah</td>
<td>Mic.</td>
<td>Tobit</td>
<td>Tob.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nahum</td>
<td>Nah.</td>
<td>Wisdom of Solomon</td>
<td>Wis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numbers</td>
<td>Num.</td>
<td>Zephaniah</td>
<td>Zeph.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**New Testament**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acts</td>
<td>Acts</td>
<td>Mark</td>
<td>Mark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colossians</td>
<td>Col.</td>
<td>Matthew</td>
<td>Matt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Corinthians</td>
<td>1 Cor.</td>
<td>Peter</td>
<td>1 Pet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Corinthians</td>
<td>2 Cor.</td>
<td>Peter</td>
<td>2 Pet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ephesians</td>
<td>Eph.</td>
<td>Philemon</td>
<td>Phil.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Galatians</td>
<td>Gal.</td>
<td>Philippians</td>
<td>Phil.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hebrews</td>
<td>Heb.</td>
<td>Revelation</td>
<td>Rev.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James</td>
<td>Jas.</td>
<td>Romans</td>
<td>Rom.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John</td>
<td>John</td>
<td>1 Thessalonians</td>
<td>1 Thess.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 John</td>
<td>1 John</td>
<td>2 Thessalonians</td>
<td>2 Thess.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 John</td>
<td>2 John</td>
<td>1 Timothy</td>
<td>1 Tim.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 John</td>
<td>3 John</td>
<td>2 Timothy</td>
<td>2 Tim.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jude</td>
<td>Jude</td>
<td>Titus</td>
<td>Titus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bible Commentaries
generally follow the format of books. The only notable difference is the inclusion of the commentary series and volume number with no separating comma. Write the commentary series in headline-style capitalization (no italics) in the note and bibliography. Include the series or volume number after the series name. General editors do not need to be included in either the note or bibliography. The format is as follows:

N:


B:


Some Bible Commentaries contain multiple authors. For example, *The New Interpreters Bibles* has several contributors within a single volume. Treat these as chapters in an edited volume. Include the series and volume number with no separating comma. As with other commentaries, the series is written in headline-style capitalization in the note and bibliography.

N:


B:

Papal encyclicals follow the format of books. The title should be in the language it was published or commonly known (this is typically the Latin title). If you feel it is relevant or helpful, you may include the English title in brackets next to the Latin. The Latin title is italicized. Titles (e.g. Pope, Pontiff, Holy Father, etc.) are not used. Cite the enumerated paragraph instead of page numbers.

N:


B:


N:

2 Francis, *Laudato Si’*, 19.

B:


Encyclical’s accessed online are treated in much the same way. Key information includes the author, title, accessed date (month date, year) and database (Vatican.va). It is highly recommended that online encyclicals and papal documents only be accessed through the Holy See’s website (https://w2.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html).

In lieu of page numbers, cite the enumerated paragraph. Documents accessed through the Vatican’s website can be cited material from an online database. Since these URLs are not stable, the full URL is not necessary. In place of the URL, use an abbreviated title of the website (e.g. Vatican.va.). Other online papal document should follow this format.

N:


B:


**Apostolic Exhortations**

N:


B:

N:


**Apostolic Constitution**

N:
2 Francis, *Vultum Dei Quaerere*, 22.


**Apostolic Speeches and Letters**

N:


N:


There are many shorter speeches, letters, and other similar sized documents on the Vatican’s website. Cite these materials as one would cite an article found a database. Information to be cited includes author, document, full publication date (month date, year), and database (Vatican.va.). Again the full URL is not necessary since we are treating this as a document from a database without a stable URL.

N:
2 Francis, “Address of his Holiness Pope Francis.”

Printed documents of the Second Vatican Council, canons from the Code of Canon Law, and other documents of the Catholic Church generally follow the format of a work within an edited volume. Cite the author or joint author, such as the Second Vatican Council, or document name. Following this information, include the edited volume and the editor or editors, as appropriate, together with publication information and paragraph number. Above all, there should be consistency when citing these materials.

**Council Documents**

**N:**


**B:**


Online council documents similar to an e-book accessed through a database (Vatican.va). Include the accessed date, database, and enumerated paragraph number.

**N:**


**B:**


**Canon Law**

Print editions of the Code of Canon Law follow the format of a book. Cite the number of the canon and its subsection, as appropriate, instead of page numbers.

**N:**


**B:**


**N:**


**B:**

Catechism of the Catholic Church

The Catechism of the Catholic Church follows the format of a book. Use the locator numbers in place of page numbers or any other identifier.

N:

2 Catechism of the Catholic Church, 334.

B:


N:

1 Catechism of the Catholic Church, accessed January 5, 2017, Vatican.va, 2701.

B:

ANCIENT TEXTS, EPISTLES, AND HOMILIES

Ancient sources are often part of a series or collection. As a result, several pieces of information should be included when citing these sources. Ancient sources typically have a translator in addition to the author and title. It is critically important that a translator be cited whenever possible. Many of these texts are distinguished by translation, as some translations have an authoritative status.

When citing specific passages, it is preferable to refer to chapter/letter, homily, or section number whenever possible. Letter/chapter or section numbers provide a more definite and stable way of finding information. This makes it easier to find the cited quote or passage, even when one has an edition that is different from the one cited (e.g. an electronic version). Page numbers should always be cited, but they hold the least importance.

The hierarchy of information is therefore:
1. Homily/letter
2. Chapter/Section #
3. Paragraph # (sometimes necessary when paragraphs are not enumerated)
3. Page number (print sources only)

The information is portrayed as follows:

```
3. 6. 34
```

Or

```
4. 2. 13
```

**Homilies**

As with Bible commentaries, it is not necessary to cite the series editor or editors. The series title and number should be included after the translator or translators. The series title is abbreviated in the note and written in headline style in the bibliography (no italics). The series volume number follows the series title with no separating comma. The publication information follows the regular rules of CMOS. When citing homilies or ancient commentaries (depending on the series) cite the homily number, section number (if applicable), and printed page number.

**N:**


**B:**

N:


B:


**Epistles**

Letters may or may not have titles. Therefore, the letter title can be omitted in the note and bibliography. The most important pieces of information are the author, translator, series, and volume number. It is not necessary to cite the series editor or editors. Do cite the volume editor if the editor is listed along with the translator on the title page. The series titled is abbreviated in the note and written in headline style in the bibliography (no italics). When citing from an ancient letter, include the letter, chapter (if applicable), and page number. In the example below, the letter number is 15, the chapter number is 1, and the printed page number is 43.

N:


2 Cyprian, *Letters*, FOTC, 15.2.44.

B:


**Texts by Church Fathers**

Certain series combine several works of one author into a single volume. Both *The Ante-Nicene Fathers* (ANF) and *The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers* (first and second series: NPNF\(^1\) and NPNF\(^2\)) follow this format. When using these collections, each volume is treated as an edited work. Therefore one should cite the ancient author, the title of their work in italics (not the general volume title), the translator and/or editor of the cited work, series title and volume number (minus the general editor), and publication information. One should first cite the chapter/section and paragraph number (if needed) and printed page number. If the work is not divided into chapters or sections, the printed page number will suffice. NPNF has two series. Indicate the series used with a superscripted 1 or 2. In the first example below, the chapter number is 19, the paragraph number is 1, and the printed page number is 43.

N:


B:

N:


B:


N:


B:


**Thomas Aquinas**

The *Summa Theologica* has a standardized reference system. One should use and become familiar with how the *Summa Theologica* is divided into parts, questions, and articles. Page numbers are irrelevant when citing from the *Summa Theologica*.

N:

1 Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologica* Ia2æ, Q.91, Art. 2.


B:

Bibliography


