

Citing the Weird: AI Tools Edition

As of August 2024, the following templates cover how to cite AI tools in some of the most common academic styles: MLA, APA, Chicago, and AMA. Please note that some of these styles discourage any use of AI but still provide the templates. Always defer to class policy first on whether or not AI tool usage is allowed. Please refer to the provided links for more information.

MLA:

Template:

“Exact phrasing of prompt submitted” prompt. *Title of Container/Tool*, Version of tool, Publisher, Date generated, URL.

Sample:

“Describe the symbolism of the green light in the book *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald” prompt. *ChatGPT*, 13 Feb. version, OpenAI, 8 Mar. 2023, chat.openai.com/chat.

For the in-text citation, use a shortened version of the prompt, as if you were citing a source with a title but no author.

Reference: <https://style.mla.org/citing-generative-ai/>

APA:

Template:

Author. (Year of version used). *Tool* (Version) [Software descriptor]. Source/Publisher. URL

Sample:

OpenAI. (2023). *ChatGPT* (Mar 14 version) [Large language model]. <https://chat.openai.com/chat>

Note that in this instance, because the publisher is used as author, we omit repeating it.

For the in-text citation, use the publisher as an author and cite as normal.

Reference: <https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/how-to-cite-chatgpt>

Chicago:

[Notes-Bibliography]

Template and Sample:

1. Text generated by Tool, Publisher, Date generated, URL.

1. Text generated by ChatGPT, OpenAI, March 7, 2023, <https://chat.openai.com/chat>.

[Author-Date]

Template and Sample:

(Tool, Date generated).

(ChatGPT, March 7, 2023).

Note how only templates for in-text citations are available. Chicago Manual asks the AI tools not be cited in the bibliography or reference list unless you can provide a public link—because generated prompts cannot be directly reproduced by others (as they would require your personal login), it cannot be included in the full reference list. Please refer to the link for alternative in-text citation forms.

Reference:

<https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/qanda/data/faq/topics/Documentation/faq0422.html>

AMA:

Template and Sample:

1. *Tool*. Version. Publisher; Year. Access date. URL

1. *ChatGPT*. Version Mar 14. OpenAI; 2023. Accessed March 28, 2023. <https://openai.com/>

Template and Sample:

(Tool, Type of communication, Date generated)

(ChatGPT, response to question from author, April 06, 2023)

Please note that AMA, like Chicago, lacks a reference list entry for AI tools. AMA strictly states that AI software should not be listed as the creator or author of any material, as the software itself does not qualify for authorship. It is suggested to acknowledge any use of AI in an acknowledgement section or in a methods section.

Reference: <https://askus.library.nd.edu.au/faq/273477>, <https://libguides.usc.edu/c.php?g=1029472&p=8076397>, and https://libguides.jcu.edu.au/ama/software_AI