

Hume Studies Author Guidelines (revised July 2026)

Hume Studies follows *The Chicago Manual of Style* (CMS) 18th edition (2024) using the “Author-date” reference system. Except for references to Hume’s works and other frequently cited pre-20th century works (for which see below), sources are cited parenthetically in text by authors’ names and date of publication. Full bibliographic details appear only in a “Works Cited” list at the end of the paper. Authors should consult the CMS and ensure their text, quotations, references, and “Works Cited” lists are formatted accordingly.

Please pay special attention to sections 7.51 (opening two sentences) on the use of emphasis, 7.60 (at the end) on that of scare quotes, and 13.5 (passing over the second to fifth sentences) on the curation of Works Cited lists and their associated footnotes. Please omit use of the dash in favour of other punctuation or sentence splitting. Please do not use the historical present. When discussing historical people or events, use a past tense. When discussing specific documents or records or principles (whether true or false, avowed or conjectured) use the present tense. Acts of thinking, saying, or writing attributed to a historical person fall in the former category; propositions thought, said, or written in the latter. Hume *thought* that there *are* no necessary connections. Hume *argued* for this conclusion; T 1.3.14 *argues* for it.

To reduce discordance with Hume’s orthography and inadvertent auto-corrects to cited text, authors writing in English should select “English (United Kingdom)” as the language for their spell checkers.

References to Hume’s works

References to Hume’s works should appear in the body of the text. Authors should insert the following note to the first reference:

See the Bibliographical Note to this issue of *Hume Studies* for a key to references to Hume’s works.

Authors need not say any more about how Hume’s works will be referenced nor should they include Hume’s works in their “Works Cited” lists. They must, however, use the abbreviations and follow the reference format found in the [Bibliographical Note](#).

When uncertain how to abbreviate a title or numerate a reference, use what is employed by [Hume Texts Online](#).

When distinctions between what appeared in different editions of Hume’s works are called for, title abbreviations may be dated. For example T1740 1.3.7.7 can be used to designate a passage printed in the 1740 T App. but there directed for insertion to T1739 Book 1, Part 3, Section 7 after paragraph 6.

Authors are expected to know the history of Hume’s revisions and editors’ suggested variants to his texts as well as they know the secondary literature on those texts. To this end, they should make use of the most recent *variorum* editions, where they exist, and consider whether any variants to their cited passages merit attention.

T, Ab, and L: Hume, David. 2007. *The Clarendon Edition of the Works of David Hume: A Treatise of Human Nature*, edited by David Fate Norton and Mary J. Norton, 2 vols. Oxford University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1093/acrade/9780199596331.book.1> and <https://www.doi.org/10.1093/acrade/9780199596348.book.1>.

EMPL: Hume, David. 2021. *The Clarendon Edition of the Works of David Hume: Essays, Moral,*

Political, and Literary: A Critical Edition, edited by Tom L. Beauchamp and Mark A. Box, 2 vols. Oxford University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1093/actrade/9780199284061.book.1> and <https://doi.org/10.1093/actrade/9780199284078.book.1>.

- E: Hume, David. 2000. *The Clarendon Edition of the Works of David Hume: An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding: A Critical Edition*, edited by Tom L. Beauchamp. Oxford: Clarendon Press. <https://doi.org/10.1093/actrade/9780199266340.book.1>.
- M: Hume, David. 1998. *The Clarendon Edition of the Works of David Hume: An Enquiry Concerning the Principles of Morals: A Critical Edition*, edited by Tom L. Beauchamp. Oxford: Clarendon Press. <https://doi.org/10.1093/actrade/9780199266333.book.1>.
- H: Hume, David. 2000. *History of England*, edited by Frits van Holthoorn. In *The Complete Works and Correspondence of David Hume. Electronic Edition*. IntelLex Corporation.
- N and P: Hume, David. 2007. *The Clarendon Edition of the Works of David Hume: A Dissertation on the Passions; The Natural History of Religion: A Critical Edition*, edited by Tom L. Beauchamp. Oxford: Clarendon Press. <https://doi.org/10.1093/actrade/9780199575749.book.1>.

For Hume's other works, authors should consult *Hume Texts Online* (<https://www.davidhume.org>), ensuring that the "edited versions" option with "show changes" is checked. In the case of D, the original manuscript images should be consulted as well.

Authors are reminded that use of Eighteenth-Century Collections Online [ECCO] scans of T1739 and T1740 requires also consulting the errata to those volumes as well as Hume's handwritten corrections to various copies, material that is best sourced by consulting the *variorum* edition.

Quotations from Hume's works

Quotations from Hume should be accurately drawn from the critical text of the editions listed above with any variants from that text being noted.

Authors whose circumstances make it difficult to access these editions may cite from the text as it appears in *Hume Texts Online* (ensuring that the "edited versions" option with "show changes" is checked) or, for *The History of England from the Invasion of Julius Caesar to the Revolution in 1688*, from the edition edited by William B. Todd (Liberty Fund, 1983). They should advise the editors that they are doing so.

Authors who prefer a variant to the critical text are free to quote using the variant instead but should annotate it with a reference to its source.

Examples:

Nothing can be more minute, than some ideas, which we form in the fancy; and images, which appear to the senses; since there¹ are ideas and images perfectly simple and indivisible. (T 1.2.2.5)

¹Reading with T1739 "there" for "these."

By means of that relation alone can we¹ go beyond the evidence of our memory and senses. (U 4.4)

¹Reading with E1748–60 and E1767–68 "can we" for "we can."

Quotations from and references to H

Hume Texts Online paragraph numbers should not be used to refer to H as H paragraph numbers are not consistent between different editions. Neither is the way content is divided over volumes, numbers are assigned to chapters, or page numbers are assigned to content. The closest approximation to a common reference scheme for all Hume's lifetime editions is provided by the van Holthoon edition (<https://www.nlx.com>), which integrates variants with main text on the same screen, and divides the integrated text into chapters and pages corresponding to those found in the Liberty Press edition of H. This mandates use of chapter and page numbers from that edition (or the Liberty Press edition which, however, lacks the variants).

References should have the form H C: p where "C" is the Chapter number in Arabic numerals, and "p" is the page number, in Arabic numerals, as identified in either of these editions. Volume numbers are not required as chapter numbers are consecutive across volumes.

References to Hume's footnotes take the form H C: pnx where x is the italicized, lower case note letter.

References to Hume's endnotes take the form H C: pnX: pp, where p is the page where the note callout occurs, X is a capitalized note letter and pp identifies one or more back matter pages where the note occurs.

References to editorial footnotes take the form H C: pEd.n#, where p is the page where the note callout occurs and # is the number of the editorial note.

For example, H 60: 12nA: 546–7 refers to Note A to Chapter 60, which is referenced on p.12 of that Chapter and found on pp. 546–7 of the back matter for the Volume containing that Chapter. Similarly, H 71: 539Ed.n13 refers to van Holthoon's note 13 to Chapter 71, which is referenced on p.539 of that Chapter and discusses the "proper office of religion" passage and its history

As usual, authors wishing to cite a variant to the final edition should use the notation H17xx, where 17xx is the edition year. Should authors need to cite variants that do not appear in van Holthoon's edition, they should use the H17xx notation and advise readers that they are using that edition's chapter and page numbers.

Quotations from and references to Hume's letters

References to L1, L2, NL, and NLE should have the form Abv App.X L# n where "Abv" is the abbreviation for the edition of the letters being used (see above), X is an optional appendix letter, L# is the letter number assigned in that volume, and n is the page number. (Thus, L1 16: 38–9 refers to Hume's letter to Hutcheson of 16 March, 1740, which is Letter 16 over pp. 38–9 of L1. Similarly FL App.C 126:227–8 refers to Hume's letter to Price of 18 March, 1767.)

References to HRE and FL should have the form Abv, n.

Quotations from and references to editorial content

Authors wishing to refer to the front matter or the editorial apparatus in the Oxford Clarendon editions may do so by using the abbreviation for that work (use PN for the volume that combines N and P) followed by a space followed by Ed., followed by a page number. Thus:

PG 8 refers to Hume's discussion of the civil wars between the "Blacks" and the "Whites" in "Of Parties in General";

PG1741–68 8 designates the additional remark on "complexions" added to paragraph 8 in

editions of EMPL from 1741–1768 (used for most purposes);
PG Ed.557–8 directs readers to the pages of EMPL where this variant is found (should that be deemed necessary, for example, when the variant does not fall within a paragraph of the critical text); and
PG Ed.744 directs readers to the editors' discussion of the historical events Hume was alluding to.
Similarly, M Ed.xxxi–xxxii refers to Beauchamp's discussion of a lost series of emendations to the 1767 and 1768 editions of ETSS (a discovery further substantiated at U Ed.xl–xlii, PN Ed.xxix–xxxi, and EMPL Ed.433–4).

Authors should note that though the Oxford Clarendon EMPL and T are two-volume works, the pagination is consecutive between both, so there is no need to use volume numbers when citing editorial content.

References to pre-20th century works

At their discretion, authors may split their "Works Cited" lists into two parts: I. Classic Works; II. Recent Works. Under the former they may include works that appear in multiple different versions and that have their own standardized reference forms, such as those of Aristotle, Descartes, and Kant. Authors should provide an abbreviation for the work, title, bibliographical details for the source consulted or quoted (using the author-date system) and a description of how the source is cited. Authors may then reference the work by abbreviation (and an edition date if called for) in the body of the text without needing to annotate the first use.

Entries in Classic Works should be listed in alphabetic order of the abbreviation used. For example,

Essay: Locke, John. 1975 [1689]. *An Essay concerning Human Understanding*. Reprint edited by Peter H. Nidditch. Oxford University Press. Cited by Book, Chapter, and Paragraph numbers.

NTV: Berkeley, George. 1948 [1709]. *An Essay Towards a New Theory of Vision*. Reprinted in *The Works of George Berkeley, Bishop of Cloyne*, edited by A.A. Luce and T.E. Jessop, vol. 1, London: Nelson. Cited by paragraph number.

Early works that have not obtained "classic" status but that have been reissued in modern editions should be included in "Recent Works" but may at the author's discretion be referenced along with their original or most important dates of publication, with the original dates in brackets, as above. In-text citations of these works put the original publication date first, separated from the current with a slash, for example, (1689/1975).

References to secondary literature

Authors should reference publications that have influenced the submission and that give it appropriate context within the larger scholarly record. They should:

- Ensure that their accounts of the work of others are accurate and are cited accurately.
- Avoid excessive and inappropriate citations to their own work or that of others.
- Avoid excessive citations to support a single statement in their article.

Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) should be linked to references as they provide a permanent link to the electronic article referenced and enhance the chances that an author's paper will be drawn to the attention of those consulting the referenced work.

Self references

Self references should be in the third person, as if you were referring to someone else.