

OSCOLA update

A new version of OSCOLA was published in November 2010, the fourth edition. This replaces the previous version (OSCOLA 2006).

The following notes highlight the significant changes and clarifications in the new edition: it is not a complete guide to the use of OSCOLA. Areas which are unchanged have not been included except where there is some clarification in the new edition.

The section numbers below refer to the relevant sections in OSCOLA 4th edition.

The introduction to the new edition points out that the guiding principles behind OSCOLA are that citations should be consistency and consideration for the reader as 'Legal writing is more persuasive when the author refers to legal materials in a clear, consistent and familiar way'.

1 General Notes

1.1 Citations and footnotes

Use footnotes to cite the reference to any source, whether this is a direct quotation or indirect (i.e. paraphrasing or referring to ideas taken from a source).

1.2 Subsequent citations

In a subsequent citation, briefly identify the source and give a cross-citation to the footnote where the full citation is to be found, e.g. use a short form of the case name, or the author for a secondary source. If this is in the footnote immediately following the full citation, you can use the Latin term 'ibid' which means 'in the same place'

You can refer to the section in OSCOLA for examples of this in practice: below is the example they give of the subsequent citation of a book

EXAMPLE of subsequent citation of a book

This example shows a citation of a book which is first cited (in full) at footnote 1, cited again in footnote 26 with a cross-citation to footnote 1, and then cited again at footnote 27 .

1 Robert Stevens, *Torts and Rights* (OUP 2007) .

...

26 Stevens (n 1) 110 .

27 *ibid* 271–78 .

1.3 Punctuation

OSCOLA uses as little punctuation as possible, so abbreviations and authors' initials do not take full stops.

1.5 Quotations

HERE THE ANGLIA RUSKIN REGULATIONS ARE SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT FROM OSCOLA.

YOU MUST FOLLOW THE ANGLIA RUSKIN RULES.

The difference is relatively minor: OSCOLA states that quotations of up to three lines should be incorporated in the text, but quotations of over three lines should be indented.

The difference from the Anglia Ruskin Regulations is that our Regulations concerning word limits refer to indented quotations of *over 50 words*.¹

Therefore, you should incorporate quotations of up to 50 words in the text, and indent quotations of over 50 words.

Quotations in the text should be inside single quotation marks.

Indented quotations should be separated from the text by a single line space, and there should be no quotation marks.

¹ Academic Regulations (3rd edn July 2010)

http://web.anglia.ac.uk/anet/academic/academic_regulations.phtml

6.60 In determining the text to be included within the maximum word limit, the following items are excluded:

- abstracts
- indented quotations (of more than 50 words)
- tables
- figures
- diagrams
- footnotes/endnotes used for reference purposes and kept within reasonable limits
- list of references and/ or bibliography
- appendices.

1.7 Bibliographies

As you are aware, all work submitted to Anglia Ruskin must include a bibliography.

The bibliography should be arranged in alphabetical order of the authors' surnames.

There are some key differences between the way references should be presented in footnotes and in the bibliography.

- Unlike in the footnotes where the author's first name or initial comes first, in the bibliography **the surname comes first**, followed by her or his initial and with a comma after the initial (not between the surname and initial).
- In the bibliography **only initials should be used**, not full first names.

This example is provided by OSCOLA:

CITATION in a footnote

Elizabeth Fisher, *Risk Regulation and Administrative Constitutionalism* (Hart Publishing 2007) .

CITATION in a bibliography

Fisher E, *Risk Regulation and Administrative Constitutionalism* (Hart Publishing 2007)

2 Primary Sources

2.1 Cases for England and Wales

Where there is a neutral citation, give the case name, neutral citation and law report.

Use italics for the name of the case, *v* (italics, no punctuation) to separate the names of the parties and include a comma after the neutral citation (before the law report).

This example is provided:

The example below indicates that the case involving *Corr* and *IBC Vehicles Ltd* was the thirteenth judgment issued by the House of Lords in 2008, and that a report of the judgment can be found in volume one of the 2008 volume of the series of the Law Reports called the Appeal Cases, beginning at page 884 .

Corr v IBC Vehicles Ltd [2008] UKHL 13, [2008] 1 AC 884

Where there is no neutral citation, the case name is given in the same format as above, followed by the law report.

Where the year is used to identify the law report volume it is given in square brackets.

If the law report series has volume numbers, the year of judgment (not publication) is given in *round* brackets.

Example:

Barrett v Enfield LBC [2001] 2 AC 550 (HL)

But

Barrett v Enfield LBC (1999) 49 BMLR 1 (HL)

2.4 UK Primary Legislation

Statutes:

Give the title and year (no punctuation)

e.g. Act of Supremacy 1558

Use these abbreviations for parts of statutes:

part/parts	pt/pts
section/sections	s/ss
subsection/subsections	sub-s/sub-ss
paragraph/paragraphs	para/paras
subparagraph/subparagraphs	subpara/subparas
schedule/schedules	sch/schs

3 Secondary sources

Give the author's name exactly as it appears in the publication.

Give the first name (or initials – without full stops) followed by the surname in footnotes. In the bibliography give the surname followed by the initial (not the full first name).

3.2 Books

A change from the previous edition is that it is no longer necessary to include the place of publication.

Therefore the citation will be author, title (in italics), then additional information (where relevant) edition (if not the first edition), publisher and year - all in round brackets.

The following examples are given:

Timothy Endicott, *Administrative Law* (OUP 2009)

Gareth Jones, *Goff and Jones: The Law of Restitution* (1st supp, 7th edn, Sweet & Maxwell 2009)

All publications with an ISBN should be cited in the same way as books, whether they have been read online or in hard copy.