

Citing a Class Lecture, Presentation, or Discussion

Your instructors sometimes will want you to cite in your paper or project a class lecture, someone's presentation, or even a classmate's comment from a discussion. The three official handbooks for the documentation styles used most frequently here at Saint Rose—MLA, APA, and Chicago Manual of Style—do not clearly cover citing the above types of sources. However, they do address citing general lectures and presentations, which we have used as the basis for the citation examples below. We provide an example for a class lecture, followed by instructions for how to modify the citation depending on the speaker and medium referenced. You should always check with your professor about their expectations for citing these types of sources. They may want you to approach doing so differently from what we have provided here.

Chicago Style:

Footnote:

1. First name Last name of professor, "Title or Subject of the Lecture" (class lecture, Course Name, College Name, Location, Month Day, Year).

2. Joe Smith, "Grant's Presidential Failures" (class lecture, 19th Century American History, The College of Saint Rose, Albany, New York, September 8, 2021).

Bibliography page:

Last Name, First Name of professor. "Title or Subject of the Lecture." Class lecture, Course Name, College Name, Location, Month Day, Year.

Smith, Joe. "Grant's Presidential Failures." Class lecture, 19th Century American History, The College of Saint Rose, Albany, New York, September 8, 2021.

If the comment is from a fellow classmate, substitute the professor's name with the classmate's name, and give the subject of the discussion or title of the presentation instead of the title of the lecture. Indicate whether the comment is from a Class discussion or Presentation in place of Class lecture in the citation. If you wish to cite a general class discussion, begin the citation with the title or subject of the discussion.

APA STYLE

In-text example:

In a lecture to an Educational Psychology class on September 2, 2021, R. Smith said...

OR R. Smith (Educational Psychology lecture, September 2, 2021) discussed Piaget...

OR According Piaget's Theory of Cognitive Development..... (R. Smith, Educational Psychology lecture, September 2, 2021).

Reference page:

Last Name, F. (year, month date). *Title of presentation* [lecture notes, PowerPoint slides, etc.] College Name, city, state. URL (if online component)

Smith, R. (2022, November 12). *Piaget's theory of cognitive development* [lecture], The College of Saint Rose, Albany, New York. URL (if online component)

If the comment is from a fellow classmate, substitute the professor’s name with the classmate’s name, and use the word discussion or presentation instead of lecture. If you wish to cite a general class discussion, include only the name of the course, discussion instead of lecture, and the date.

MLA STYLE

In-text example:

Write out the instructor’s or student’s name and the title or subject of the lecture, presentation, or discussion in the text of the sentence:

In Professor Smith’s lecture “Jane Austen and Psychoanalytic Theory,” she discussed...

OR Give the instructor’s or student’s name in a parenthetical citation after the cited idea:

Jane Austen reveals more about her psyche in the novel *Persuasion* than in any other novel (Smith).

Works Cited page:

Last Name, First Name of professor. “Title or Subject of Lecture.” Course Title. College Name. Day
Month Year. Location. Lecture, Discussion, Address, Presentation, or Notes.

Smith, Mary. “Jane Austen and Psychoanalytic Theory.” Introduction to Literary Criticism. 5 February 2022.

The College of Saint Rose. Albany, NY. Lecture.

If the comment is from a fellow classmate, substitute the professor’s name with the classmate’s name, give the subject of the discussion or title of the presentation instead of the title of the lecture, and use the word Discussion or Presentation at the end of the citation. If you wish to cite a general class discussion, begin the entry with the title or subject of the discussion.

See the following official guides of the above styles for more information on citing sources.

MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers. 9th ed. New York: MLA, 2021.
Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (2019). (7th ed.). Washington DC: American Psychological Association.
University of Chicago Press. *The Chicago Manual of Style*, 17th ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2021.
Owl Purdue’s resources for MLA, APA, and Chicago can be found at:
https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/resources.html

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Updated in 2022 by Bobbi Le’ Rae Valentin