Style Guide – Journal of Digital Social Research

1. Introduction

This document is the style guide of the Journal of Digital Social Research (JDSR), outlining the proper way to format and use references in submissions to the journal. Please observe that more general instructions and information about the submission process are available in the JDSR Submission Guidelines, available separately.

2. General document formatting

Contributions to JDSR should be submitted as Word or similar text file.

JDSR does not employ a maximum length for contributions, but a submission should be no longer than necessary. A clear and concise submission will have a greater chance of publication. Similarly, JDSR does not operate a minimum word requirement. However, submissions shorter than 2,000 words are normally not classified as research articles.

Submissions should normally be in English. For special issues other major languages may be used, at the discretion of the editors.

The text is single spaced; uses a 12-point font; employs italics, rather than underlining (except with URL addresses); and all illustrations, figures, and tables are placed within the text at the appropriate points, rather than at the end.

3. References

3.1 Overview

The point of departure for references in JDSR is the Harvard system (parenthetical referencing), combined with a list of references, as outlined further below. This is combined with a variant of the Oxford system (footnote referencing) for specific types of sources, not suitable for parenthetical referencing. Details are given below, but two general points should be made here: Firstly, pinpoint references (page or paragraph numbers or equivalent) are encouraged no matter the source, to facilitate for the reader. Secondly, if the source used is not listed below your references should follow the three Cs: clarity, consistency and consideration for the reader. In other words, make sure that references are informative for the reader and consistent within the article.

3.2 DOI numbers
DOI numbers should be included in the bibliography for all references where such numbers are available. You can use the search function at www.crossref.org to locate DOI-numbers for works you have cited if you have not already done so.

3.3 Citing sources in-text

3.3.1 Literature – author-date references (Harvard/APA style)

Literature is cited in-text using parentheses, providing information on author's surname, year of publication and page number (if relevant). A comma is used between year and page number, but not between the name and the year, as demonstrated by the following example:

> Research is fun and useful (Lindgren 2019, p. 54).

If the name of the author is used in the text the reference is given directly after, in the following manner:

> Lindgren (2019, p. 54) claims that research is fun and useful.

Two or three authors are mentioned using an "and", in the case of four or more authors "et al." is used, as demonstrated by following examples:

> Research is fun and useful (Lindgren and Smith 2019, p. 54).
>
> Research is fun and useful (Lindgren, Smith and Westin 2019, p. 54).
>
> Research is fun and useful (Lindgren et al. 2019, p. 54).

If you use more than one source from the same author and year, they should be separated by adding a lowercase letter after the year, as demonstrated by the following example:

> Research is fun and useful (Lindgren 2019a, p. 54). However, it can also be demanding (Lindgren 2019b, p. 593).

If you are referring to two or more sources at the same time they should be separated with semi-colons and ordered chronologically. For example:

> Research is fun and useful (Lindgren 2001, p. 54; Nilsson 2005, p. 31; Andersson 2011, p. 72).

3.3.2 Other sources – footnote references

For material other than literature, it is normally recommended to use a footnote system. For legal material (legislation, judgments etc.) we recommend OSCOLA (The Oxford Standard For Citation of Legal Authorities) as a starting point. Their guide is available here: https://www.law.ox.ac.uk/research-subject-groups/publications/oscola

Follow general rules about footnotes. For example, footnotes should normally be placed after relevant punctuation.

Regarding cross-references in footnotes: If you need to reference a previous note use the direct reference (n 4), without above/below, infra/supra or similar.

Material that is neither literature nor legal material parenthesis or footnotes can be used, depending on the specific reference. This can include references to illustrations, multimedia works, interviews etc.

3.4 Compiling the reference list

Every article in JDSR should include a reference list, placed at the end of the article. The list should be in alphabetical order, based on author/editor. All references should include name of author(s), title, edition, detail of publisher or journal.

Year of publication should always follow the author's name in the reference list.

The names of all authors are given in the reference list, even if et al is used in the in-text reference (see above).

Examples of different kinds of sources in the reference list:

Journal article

> Enarsson, T., and Lindgren, S. (2019). Free speech or hate speech?: A legal analysis of the discourse about Roma on Twitter. *Information & Communications Technology Law*, 28(1), 1-18. https://doi.org/10.1080/13600834.2018.1494415

Book

> Lindholm, J. (2019). The Court of Arbitration for Sport and Its Jurisprudence: An Empirical Inquiry into Lex Sportiva. The Hague: Springer. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-94-6265-285-9

Chapter in book

> Derlén, M., and Lindholm, J. (2018). Serving Two Masters – CJEU Case Law in Swedish First Instance Courts and National Courts of Precedence as Gatekeepers. In Derlén, M., and Lindholm, J. (eds.) The Court of Justice of the European Union – Multidisciplinary Perspectives. London: Hart Publishing, 79-99.

Web resource

In general, only include the web address when the document is only available online, when the web address is particularly helpful for finding the document, and when the

web address is static (i.e. not the result of a search in a database). Links tend to rot, meaning the content may become unavailable in the future. This can be solved by using perma.cc, please consider doing so or to include a DOI-number if available.

The format for referencing a web resource is as follows:

> Website name. (Year published). Page title. Available at: Web address.

News article, blog post, and similar

Even if they are web resources, try to cite them using the same format as when citing print articles:

> Hern, A., and Cadwalladr, C. (2018). Revealed: Aleksandr Kogan Collected Facebook Users' Direct Messages. The Guardian, 13 April. http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/apr/13/revealed-aleksandr-kogan-collected-facebook-users-direct-messages

3.5 Reference managers

If you use a reference manager, such as Zotero, the closest style to ours is APA v7.