**Assignment 1: Referencing Assignment**

Doing Media Studies 1, 2021/2022

***Abstract***

*In Doing Media Studies 1 (DMS1), you will complete a total of three assignments. The referencing assignment will help you* *familiarize yourself with a research tool, the resources that the UvA Library offers, and the Chicago citation style of referencing.*

**1. Learning Aims**

In DMS1, you develop your professional skills. After completing this assignment, you will:

* have a basic understanding of Zotero,
* be able to upload descriptions of sources using Zotero (and while doing this you will get a basic understanding of the resources that the UvA Library offers),
* have a basic understanding of the quality of descriptions, and
* be able to adjust the descriptions according to the Chicago Citation Style (Author-Date), so you can use them as citations or in a bibliography.

**2. Instructions**

First, you need to take an online mini-course that offers basic information about Zotero. This course is published on a separate UvA Library Canvas site, named ‘ILS-MS-Z’. You self-enroll in this site following **https://canvas.uva.nl/enroll/B7RG8J**

Once you are enrolled, you want to read the Home page and, next, you go to the Modules, where you can start the course from the top ('Zotero for Media Studies'). You will find that there are videos, instructions, and exercises. You will notice that as long as you work through the modules from beginning to end (and in the right order), the course will be self-explanatory.

Once you have finished the course, you will be able to consult databases in the UvA library, and you will be able to create a bibliography with the aid of Zotero. A bibliography is a list of the sources referred to in scholarly work. You will often include such a list, typically as an appendix, in the papers you write for your studies.

The Referencing Assignment requires you to compile and submit a **bibliography** that meets the following requirements:

1. **It consists of at least** ***five* *different* sources** (sources are: books, articles, audio-visuals, reviews, websites/online sources, images, dissertations/MA theses, software, official documents (‘archivalia'). 'Different sources' does not mean, for instance, two different books, but a book and an article.
2. **The sources are to be retrieved in at least *three* *different* relevant UvA Library databases**. You need to indicate in which database you have found your sources. This indication can be done separately (but in the same document you will submit) or in the bibliography itself. A ‘relevant’ database means that it is retrieved from a database relevant to your studies (e.g. Media Studies or Humanities research), rather than from an unrelated area, such as Economics or Medicine. In other words, you should be able to imagine using the source for a paper, video or research. Library databases collect published and reliable sources that qualify as academic sources: therefore, do *not* simply use google to find sources.
3. **The bibliography is alphabetized** and
4. **The Chicago (Author-Date) Style is used**.

Next to the bibliography (but in the same document), you will also provide a ‘rationale’ for two chosen references from your list, explaining *in detail* why it appears the way it does, according to the [Chicago (Author-Date) Style](https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/home.html). A correctly composed biographical entry is, in fact, a carefully coded message, and part of academic writing is learning this code. Take, for instance, this hypothetical example:

Author(s) or Editor of Work, Year Published. *"*Title of Work*,*" in*Title of Multiauthor Work*, ed. Name of Editor if given (Place of Publication: Publisher, Date of publication), Persistent URL or DOI (accessed date of access).

In this hypothetical entry, each comma, *use of* *italics*, “Titles of Chapters Between Quotation Marks” has a specific function that tells the reader which type of source it is, and where to find it. **From your list, pick two sources and briefly comment on each of their structure.** This commentary we call the ‘rationale’ because it explains the way your entries are structured, and shows your instructor that you understand the code. A good example of a rationale is shown in the UvA Library mini-course.

Your document should include the title of the assignment and your full name and student number.

Lastly, you submit your bibliography on the DMS1 Canvas site.

**3. Products**

You will make the following products: an alphabetized Chicago style (author/date) bibliography; separately, you will indicate the databases you found the sources in, and you will provide a ‘rationale’ explaining two of the reference list entries.

**4. Assessment Criteria**

Your assignment will be assessed with AVV/NAV (pass/fail). You pass this assignment by submitting your bibliography before the deadline, and if your product is satisfying the letter and intent of the assignment. There is minimal time to resit in case of an incomplete or unsatisfactory assignment in week 5. Your instructor will inform you and set the exact date (this date can deviate from the generic Canvas due date).

**5. Supervision and Help**

There will be a Q&A session on all DMS1 assignments. The UvA does not provide a Zotero helpdesk. The UvA Library however can be asked for [assistance](http://uba.uva.nl/en/contact/askthelibrary.html). For any questions specific to the *logistics* of the Referencing Assignment, please contact your instructor.

**6. Submission and deadlines**

Your product is a single document (Word or PDF). The name of the file includes your name.

You will upload your product on the DMS1 Canvas site > Assignments > Referencing Assignment (all tracks).

Deadline:

* Early Track: Friday, December 10, 5 pm
* Regular Track: Friday, January 14, 5 pm

Deadlines are strictly enforced and are not negotiable. All products will be checked for plagiarism.

**7. Resit**

If you are eligible for a resit (see Syllabus), you may submit improved versions of your products in Week 5. Your instructor will set the exact date (which can deviate from the generic due date on Canvas).