



Best Practices for Citing Sources in Presentations

Why do I need to cite my sources in a presentation?

You already know that you should cite your sources when you write a research paper, but it's important to tell your audience where you got your information no matter how you are presenting your ideas for all of the same reasons:

- Credible sources show that you have done your research and reinforce your own credibility.
- Giving credit to your sources links you to an ongoing scholarly conversation. By identifying where you got your ideas, you enable your own readers to find the sources that you used if they want to learn more.
- Bryant's Academic Honesty Policy lists plagiarism as a violation of University policy, as well as one of personal integrity.

What do I say during an oral presentation to cite my sources?

Angela Gibson from the MLA provides some great suggestions for citing your sources while giving a presentation:

- When you mention a source for the first time in your presentation, include a mention of the author, the title and the date of the source. If there is other information about the source that is relevant, you can include that as well.
- When you shift from a source quote back to your own ideas, be sure to make it clear that you are now using your own words. Gibson has some suggestions for this: "In this quotation we see"; "As we can discern from Katz's statement"; "Jefferson's words are especially apt because".
- If your presentation does not include a visual component, provide the audience with a printed list of the sources you reference in your presentation using a consistent citation style.

How do I cite my sources in a visual presentation?

- Include a citation for any content, quotes, or ideas from another source. The citation should be located either next to the information or below it.
- To format your citation, use the in-text citation guidelines that are required by your professor or are used most commonly in the field you are presenting in.
- The font size for your citations can be smaller than the other fonts on the slide, but should be legible to the audience.
- Include a list of sources with full citation information at the end of your presentation.

How can I use images, videos, music, or media types in my presentation?

Whenever you use the work or ideas of another person, you must cite it in your presentation:

- When you present information **visually** (using slides, a poster, video, handout, etc.), you must provide a full written citation.
 - A parenthetical citation should directly accompany images, videos, quotes, or anything that is directly referenced in your presentation.
 - A works cited or references list should appear at the end of your presentation for all sources.
- When you present information **orally**, you must provide an abbreviated citation that should include the name of the creator, title, and publication date.

What about copyright?

Finding media to use in your presentation may not be as easy as searching Google Images and using the first image that you find. Images are often subject to copyright restrictions, even if the image is being used for educational purposes. However, media used in a classroom presentation is often protected by Fair Use or the TEACH Act. Consider seeking out Creative Commons licensed content to use in your presentation. Creative Commons is a nonprofit organization that enables content-creators to license their work for using and sharing. Learn more at <https://creativecommons.org/>

If you have any questions about the copyright status of media that you find online, email the host of the website for more information or permission to use that content. Bryant University Library offers access to several databases that provide access to media that you may use for educational purposes. There are also many museums, libraries, and archives that provide access to content for educational use. For more information, contact a librarian.

Who can help me if I have more questions about citing sources?

- Ask a librarian. Visit the Douglas and Judith Krupp Library or get citation help by visiting the “Research Help” section of the library web site at library.bryant.edu. Library help is also available via IM, email, phone, or text.
- Visit the Writing Center. You can meet with a writing consultant or a writing specialist to help you prepare for your presentation. They will review your handouts and slides, and are happy to listen to you practice your presentation. They can also read through your citations with you to ensure they are correct. To schedule a Writing Center appointment, call 401-232-6567.
- Refer to citation style guides for information on how to cite information appropriately within their guidelines. MLA, APA, ACS, and Chicago citation guides are available at the library.

Works Cited:

Gibson, Angela. “5 Tips for Documenting Sources in a Talk.” *The MLA Style Center*, The Modern Language Association, 3 Jan. 2017, <https://style.mla.org/2017/01/03/documenting-sources-in-a-talk>



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