

Oscola referencing

Oscola (Oxford Standard for the Citation of Legal Authorities) style is used if you are writing for a qualifying Law degree or for the School of Law.

- Oscola uses **footnotes**, which should include the pinpoint reference to a page or paragraph number.
- Oscola does **not** require the use of full stops in abbreviations e.g. All ER not All E.R.
- Oscola requires multiple citations in a footnote to be separated by a semi-colon e.g. *Secretary of State for the Home Department v E* [2007] UKHL 47, [2008] 1 All ER 699 (HL) 702; SJ Fredman, 'Equality: A New Generation?' [2001] ILJ 145, 158.

Referencing Primary Sources

Cases

Give the party names, followed by the neutral citation, followed by the Law Reports citation (e.g. AC, Ch, QB). If there is no neutral citation, give the Law Reports citation followed by the court in brackets. If the case is not reported in the Law Reports, cite the All ER or the WLR report, or failing that a specialist report.

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

R (Roberts) v Parole Board [2004] EWCA Civ 1031, [2005] QB 410.

Page v Smith [1996] AC 155 (HL).

When pinpointing, give paragraph numbers in square brackets at the end of the citation. If the judgment has no paragraph numbers, give the page number pinpoint after the court.

Callery v Gray [2001] EWCA Civ 1117, [2001] 1 WLR 2112 [42], [45].

Bunt v Tilley [2006] EWHC 407 (QB), [2006] 3 All ER 336 [1]–[37].

R v Leeds County Court, ex p Morris [1990] QB 523 (QB) 530–31.

If citing a particular judge:

Arcscott v The Coal Authority [2004] EWCA Civ 892, [2005] Env LR 6 [27] (Laws LJ).

Examples taken from OSCOLA Quick Reference Guide written by the Oxford Law Faculty, in consultation with the OSCOLA Editorial Advisory Board

Statutes and Statutory Instruments

Give the title and date followed by SI reference (if applicable and) section no (if appropriate).

Act of Supremacy 1558.

Human Rights Act 1998, s 15(1)(b).

Penalties for Disorderly Behaviour (Amendment of Minimum Age) Order 2004, SI 2004/3166.

EU legislation

Give the legislation type e.g. Council Decision, Council Directive or Council Regulation (EC) number title including amendments if necessary, the year, OJ L issue number/first page number, and pinpoint page or article if required.

Consolidated Version of the Treaty on European Union [2008] OJ C115/13.

Council Regulation (EC) 139/2004 on the control of concentrations between undertakings (EC Merger Regulation) [2004] OJ L24/1, art 5.

EU cases

Give the case number (cases since 1989 designated as C if European Court of Justice or T if Court of First Instance), the case name, the year, the law report series abbreviation, the first page, and the pinpoint paragraph (para) or paragraphs (paras) if required.

Case C–176/03 Commission v Council [2005] ECR I–7879, paras 47–48.

Case C–556/07 Commission v France [2009] OJ C102/8.

European Court of Human Rights

Give the title, the application no (if applicable) and the report details.

Omojudi v UK (2010) 51 EHRR 10.

Osman v UK ECHR 1998–VIII 3124.

Balogh v Hungary App no 47940/99 (ECHR, 20 July 2004).

Simpson v UK (1989) 64 DR 188.

Referencing Secondary Sources

Books

Give the author's name in the same form as in the publication, except in bibliographies, where you should give only the surname followed by the initial(s). Give the relevant information about edition etc. before the publisher, and give page numbers at the end of the citation, after the brackets.

Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan* (first published 1651, Penguin 1985) 268.

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

Contributions to edited books

Francis Rose, 'The Evolution of the Species' in Andrew Burrows and Alan Rodger (eds), *Mapping the Law: Essays in Memory of Peter Birks* (OUP 2006).

Encyclopedias

Halsbury's Laws (5th edn, 2010) vol 57, para 53.

Journal articles

Put a comma between the first page of the article and the pinpoint page.

Paul Craig, 'Theory, "Pure Theory" and Values in Public Law' [2005] PL 440.

JAG Griffith, 'The Common Law and the Political Constitution' (2001) 117 LQR 42, 64.

Online journals

Graham Greenleaf, 'The Global Development of Free Access to Legal Information' (2010) 1(1) EJLT <<http://ejlt.org//article/view/17>> accessed 27 July 2010.

Command papers and Law Commission reports

Department for International Development, *Eliminating World Poverty: Building our Common Future* (White Paper, Cm 7656, 2009) ch 5.

Law Commission, *Reforming Bribery* (Law Com No 313, 2008) paras 3.12–3.17.

Websites and blogs

Sarah Cole, 'Virtual Friend Fires Employee' (Naked Law, 1 May 2009) <<http://www.nakedlaw.com/2009/05/index.html>> accessed 19 November 2009.

Newspaper articles

Jane Croft, 'Supreme Court Warns on Quality' *Financial Times* (London, 1 July 2010) 3.

Legal abbreviations

To find out what the abbreviations mean, or to abbreviate a title for referencing purposes, a useful website is the **Cardiff Index to Legal Abbreviations** available at:

<http://www.legalabbrevs.cardiff.ac.uk>

or you can just search for 'cardiff index' in Google.

Useful sources of help

The **full OSCOLA guide** is available at:

http://www.law.ox.ac.uk/published/OSCOLA_4th_edn.pdf

A **quick guide** is available at:

http://www.law.ox.ac.uk/published/OSCOLA_Quick_Reference_Guide_001.pdf

Cardiff Index to Abbreviations is available at:

<http://www.legalabbrevs.cardiff.ac.uk>

A '**Citing the Law**' tutorial is available at:

<https://ilrb.cf.ac.uk/citingreferences/oscola/tutorial/index.html>

The OSCOLA section of the **Referencing @ Portsmouth** site available at:

<http://referencing.port.ac.uk/>

From the Library homepage (www.port.ac.uk/library), click on the link to Referencing at the top of the screen.

Click on OSCOLA and select the source of information you wish to reference OR explore the links under the OSCOLA heading on the left-hand side of the screen.