

The American Journal of Law & Medicine

Style Guide

Footnote Conventions

General Guidance

The Journal uses footnotes, not endnotes. *All footnotes must comply with the most recent edition of the Bluebook and the rules contained therein that are applicable to the cited source.*

All short citation forms should be adhered to when applicable (Bluebook Rule 4).

Never use more than one note in one place in the text (e.g., ^{4,5,6,8}). Instead, place notes immediately after the contentions they support. (“Given the well-documented physical and mental health harms of weight-loss supplements,²¹ particularly among youth,²² there is an urgent need for policy interventions to decrease their use among Americans.”)

For more general guidance on Bluebook rules, consult the categories and examples set forth below. However, please use these examples *only* to supplement your understanding of the official rules and examples provided in the Bluebook, and/or to direct yourself to those rules. *Please consult the Bluebook in full for all citation- and footnote-related inquiries.*

Cases (Bluebook Rule 10)

1. Solem v. Barlett, 465 U.S. 463, 470 (1984).

Do not italicize or underline case names. Use a pincite to cite to the relevant page number.

Articles in consecutively paginated journals (Bluebook Rule 16.4)

1. Catherine J.K. Sandoval et al., Legal Education During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Put Health, Safety and Equity First, 61 Santa Clara L. Rev. 367, 373 (2021).

Use small caps for the journal title. Cite the relevant page number using a pincite.

Books (Bluebook Rule 15)

1. GARY S. BECKER, THE ECONOMIC APPROACH TO HUMAN BEHAVIOR 111 (1976).

Use small caps for the author’s name and book title. Cite to the relevant page number using a pincite.

Internet, electronic media, and other nonprint sources (Bluebook Rule 18)

1. Dr. Janet Woodcock (@DrWoodcockFDA), TWITTER (Jul. 9, 2021, 12:49 PM), <https://twitter.com/DrWoodcockFDA/status/1413540801934774283>.
2. Andrew Joseph & Rachel Cohrs, *Alzheimer’s Patients are in Limbo as Hospitals, Insurers Grapple with Whether to Offer Adulhelm*, STAT (Aug. 4, 2021), <https://www.statnews.com/2021/08/04/alzheimers-patients-in-limbo-as-hospitals-insurers-grapple-aduhelm/>.

3. Elisabeth Ryan, *The ‘Tanning Tax’ Is A Public Health Success Story*, HEALTH AFFS. BLOG (Aug. 15, 2017), <https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/10.1377/forefront.20170815.061547/full/>.

Generally, use small caps for the website title and append date of source and URL.

Statutes (Bluebook Rule 12)

1. Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act of 1938, 21 U.S.C. § 321(g)(2).
2. 18 U.S.C. §§ 208 – 211 (2020).
3. Pub. L. No. 103-417, § 3(a), 108 Stat. 4325, 4327 (1994).

Consult Bluebook Rule 12 for the proper citation format of the statute being cited.

The Constitution (Bluebook Rule 11)

1. U.S. CONST. art. I, § 8, cl. 1.
2. U.S. CONST. amend. X.

Set “Constitution” abbreviation in small caps.

Regulations (Bluebook Rule 14.2)

1. Certain Types of Statements for Dietary Supplements, 21 C.F.R. § 101.93(g)(2) (2000).

Consult Bluebook Rule 14 for the proper citation format of the regulation being cited.

Interviews (Bluebook Rule 17.2.5)

1. Telephone Interview with Thomas K. Wuest, Ret. Chief Medical Officer, Trillium Cmty. Health Plan, in Eugene, Or. (Nov. 4, 2021) [hereinafter “Wuest Interview”].

Consult Bluebook Rule 17 for interview citations and citations to other unpublished works.

In-text Stylistic Conventions

General Guidance

The Journal’s style should not be imposed within quotations (e.g., The court held that “healthcare practitioners cannot violate their patients’ confidentiality to abide by public health statutory requirements.” If used outside the quotation, the Journal would require “health care practitioners.”)

Terminology preferences

Use “health care” (with a space) rather than “healthcare.”

Spell out “United States” when it is being used as a noun or location (“In the United States, food deserts ...”). Abbreviate to “U.S.” when using the term in adjective form (“The U.S. population” or “The U.S. Olympic Team”). Put periods between “U” and “S” when abbreviating as an adjective. (The same rules apply to use of the terms “European Union” and “E.U.”)

This journal uses U.S. spelling. When a word has multiple variants, use the first variant listed in Merriam-

Webster.

Numerical preferences

Spell out numbers under ninety-nine and use numerals for numbers over ninety-nine. (“The twenty freezers provide storage space for more than 600,000 samples.”)

But if the numbers referenced are part of a series and are a mixture of one-, two-, and/or three-digit numbers, use numerals. (“Plaintiffs gained, respectively, 117, 6, and 28 pounds.”)

Use hyphens to enjoin two-worded numbers (“fifty-five” rather than “fifty five”).

Generally, percentages under 100% should be spelled out (“thirty-three percent” rather than “33%”) *unless* the referenced percentage is not a whole-number percentage (“33.3%” rather than “thirty-three-point-three percent”). *If percentages are referenced with substantial frequency, however, numerals can be used throughout the article.*

Dashes and hyphens

Use an “em” dash (not a hyphen) with a space on either side between words indicating a pause, e.g., “She believed — at least for the moment — that he was correct.”

Use an “en” dash (not a hyphen) with no additional spaces between numbers indicating the beginning and end of a specific range (e.g., *See Jones, supra* note 12, at 135–37.).

Generally, hyphens should be used to conjoin an adjectival phrase that precedes a noun (e.g., “a two-part test,” “the well-written summary”).

Hyphens should never be used after an adverb ending in -ly (e.g., “poorly-written complaint” is incorrect. Instead, type “poorly written complaint”).

Quotation marks and apostrophes

Use “smart” or curved quotation marks and apostrophes (i.e., “ ” and ‘ ’).

Never use apostrophes to pluralize.

Do not use apostrophes in references to dates or time periods. (Use “During the 1980s” rather than “During the 1980’s.”)

Commas

Use the Oxford comma (serial comma). In other words, include a comma before “and” in a list of three or more items. (“The salad included carrots, tomatoes, and onions.” not “The salad included carrots, tomatoes and onions.”)

Spacing

Use a single space between sentences (rather than a double space).

To indicate words eliminated from a quotation, use “...” with a space on either side (“He rose ... and objected.”). Add a period after the ellipsis if the sentence ends before the subsequently quoted material

begins. In this case, close the gap between the last word and the beginning of the ellipsis. For example: Public health authorities “should not provide any additional assistance or become intermeshed or associated with the criminal investigation.... Public health authorities must avoid at all costs an image in the community as actively assisting in the criminal investigation of persons.”

Capitalization

Do not capitalize words following colons or semicolons.

Capitalize “federal” when the word it modifies is capitalized.

Use brackets to modify capitalization in quotations where necessary. (E.g., Thompson writes that “[a]ll physicians are required to ...”).

Italicization

Italicize words for emphasis; do not underline or embolden for emphasis.

Do not italicize “i.e.” or “e.g.” *unless* using as a signal in a footnote.