Guidelines for Citing Papers in the Biology Department

In courses in the Department of Biology we ask you to use a standard scientific citation style. This style is one version of CSE (Council on Scientific Editors). An online guide for citation is available through The Penn State library.

https://www.libraries.psu.edu/content/psul/researchguides/citationstyles/CSE_citation.html#cse-citations

In addition to the format details found at the Penn State Library site, please use the following guidelines and modifications when citing papers:

- In the references section all relevant sources must be included and all listed references must be cited in the body of the paper.
- Arrange the citations in alphabetical order by the last name of the first author. No numbering of sources is needed. If there is no specific person listed see the online citation style guide.
- Use the name, year system for in text citation.
- *Italics* are used for genus and species names. There is no boldface, underlining, or quotation marks.
- The names of journals should be abbreviated by the standard method. http://library.caltech.edu/reference/abbreviations/
- Additional details on what information should be cited from an obscure source can be found in the Bedford Manual, but then applied to the format described in THIS document.
- Use the CSE format for internet sources ONLY for sources found ONLY on the web: blogs, online only journals, web books.
  - Example: A web only source about genetics: http://learn.genetics.utah.edu/content/begin/dna/
  - References Cited:
    DNA to Protein [Internet]. [updated 2011 Jan 24]. Genetic Science Learning Center; [cited 2011 Oct 24]. Available from http://learn.genetics.utah.edu/content/begin/dna/
    In text: (http://learn.genetics.utah.edu)
- Use only webpage root address for in text web source citations.
  - Example: http://learn.genetics.utah.edu/content/begin/dna/
  - In text: (http://learn.genetics.utah.edu)
- Cite journals viewed online in the standard CSE journal format.
  - Example: Research article found this URL: http://cebp.aacrjournals.org/content/18/4/1303.full.pdf+html
  - References Cited:
    In text: (Gray et al. 2009)