UNIVERSITÄT
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Citation in Scientific Work

1 Motivation

This document is a brief guide and at the same time an example of correct citation. Citation is used in scientific documents (theses, reports, presentations, etc.) to distinguish which parts of it (text passages, images, etc.) originate from the author and have been incorporated from foreign works (e.g. Figure 1). In addition, inspirational or further sources should be named. When selecting the sources, peer-reviewed, printed, primary and available are to be preferred [Zobel14]. The source can be specified directly as a footnote on the respective page, or collected at the end as an endnote in the form of a source list. The endnotes allow multiple, scattered references to a source. In computer science endnotes are preferred.

2 Citation and Quotation

Basically, a distinction is made between citation and quotation. "Quotations are text from another source [...]. The quoted material should be an exact transcription of the original text [...]." [Zobel14]. The labeling is done in double quotes. If parts of the quotation are omitted, these omissions are to be indicated by [...]. The source must be stated immediately after the quote. Quotations are meaningful, e.g. "if one cannot formulate the statement more aptly" [John12], as it is conceivable in a definition.

On the other hand, if you only want to reproduce foreign content in analogy, this is done through a citation. Here, neither the beginning nor the end is explicitly marked. Therefore, according to [Kassel06], the nature and extent of what is quoted must be clear from the context.
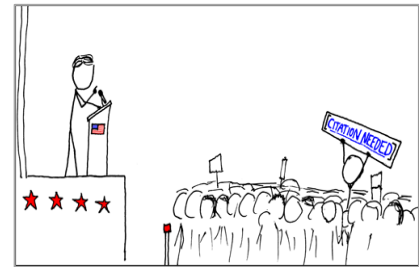

Figure 1: „Wikipedian Protester"
[Munroe15]

3 References

A reference represents the link to a source within a text. A reference is an informative note to a source, which allows a quick and unambiguous assignment in the bibliography [Wember14]. For example, references can be constructed according to the scheme [<Name> <JJ> <a>]. Where <name> is the lead author's last name and <JJ> is the last two digits of the year of publication. In case of a naming conflict, some letter <a> will be appended for differentiation. A reference to a source is in square brackets. If a citation refers to multiple sources, the references are separated by commas [Kassel06, John12].

The reference immediately follows a citation. If a reference refers to a sentence, then it precedes the full stop. If, on the other hand, a reference refers to an entire paragraph, then it is at the end of the paragraph after the full stop. Alternatively, according to [Wember14], the references can also be used in the text as an autonomous sentence component, just like quotations.

4 Bibliography

The bibliography is at the end of a thesis and contains exactly the sources to which the text refers. Each source begins with the isolated reference in square brackets, followed by the indication of source. The sources are sorted alphanumerically in ascending order by reference.

The indication of source must be in a form such that that the source is unambiguously assigned. The key components include the names of all authors, the title, and the year of publication. For sources from the Internet, the date of (last) access is added. If the content is also available as a printed version, this is to be preferred as a source [Kassel06]. Keeping a digital copy is advisable.

Bibliography

[Hecht10]	Martin Hecht, Ralf Bohnenberg, Normen Fuchs: „Erstellen einer wissenschaftlichen Arbeit (Leitfaden)", Rostock, Uni Rostock, 2010
[John12]	John Christian, Potthoff Nils: „Leitfaden für wissenschaftliche Arbeiten", Wuppertal, Bergische Universität Wuppertal, 2012
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[Munroe15]	Randal Munroe: „Wikipedian Protester", https://xkcd.com/285/, Access am 06.04.2015
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